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Thomas Winning: traditionalist with a radical streak, **p16**



Change for the better

Why every woman would benefit from hormone replacement therapy, **p17**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,100 TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1 1994

Veteran MP defiant as Commons rejects public hearings of cash-for-questions inquiry

Benn ready to publish MPs' secrets

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY Benn vowed last night to defy the Commons and publish details of the privileges committee's cash-for-questions inquiry as Conservative MPs mobilised to reject a Labour call for it to sit in public.

The Commons defeated by 301 votes to 264, a motion proposed by John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, ordering the committee to sit in public except when for "clear and compelling" reasons, especially for reasons of natural justice, the press and public should be excluded.

MPs then carried without a division a Government amendment leaving the committee to decide on the form of its investigation. It has already decided to sit in private.

Announcing his intention to report the committee's proceedings, Mr Benn declared: "My first responsibility is to those who have elected me to Parliament, who are entitled to know what is being done in their name, and in my judgment that duty must take precedence over any conventions of the House."

The crucial vote came after Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, had announced an investigation into the use by *The Guardian* of Commons writing paper to obtain information about Jonathan Aitken's bill for a stay at the Ritz in Paris.

As Conservative MPs fiercely condemned the newspaper's editor, Peter Preston — Lord Tebbit, without directly naming him, had accused him of behaving in a "scurrilous, scandalous, dishonest and wicked manner" — Miss Boothroyd said she took the accounts of the misuse of the writing paper very seriously and had asked Sir Alan Urwick, the Serjeant at Arms, to look into it.



Boothroyd: inquiry into use of Commons paper

She said: "The House makes facilities available to the press so proceedings may be reported not so the name of the House can be used to give false authority to a newspaper's own activities."

Mr Preston was summoned to see Sir Alan yesterday at the Commons and asked about the circumstances in which he obtained the paper.

Mr Prescott said the alleged misuse of the Commons was "quite deplorable and must be fully investigated".

Labour members of the committee, whose boycott of the investigation had led to the debate, were meeting last night to decide tactics in the wake of the votes. The privileges committee will meet this afternoon to start its inquiry into allegations that the Tory MPs Graham Riddick and David Tredinnick were prepared to accept £1,000 for tabling questions.

Members on both sides are hoping for a compromise; one is that evidence taken in private will be published within 24 hours. But there was no early sign that Labour MPs felt they had been offered enough to return to the committee.

Mr Benn, the former Labour Cabinet minister and most senior member of the committee, threw the debate into confusion by announcing that he was no longer prepared to accept the tradition of private hearings.

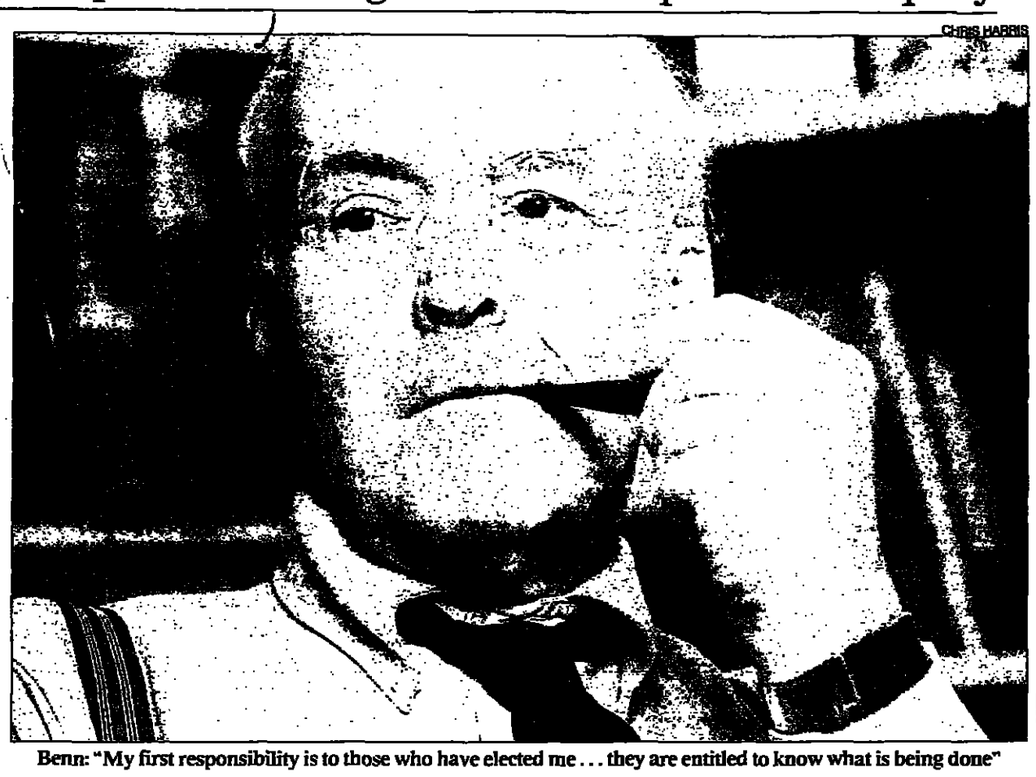
He hoped the House would change its practices. But to Conservative protests he declared that he would issue his own report of proceedings he attended.

"These reports, which will be based upon notes made at meetings of the privileges committee, will be as fair and accurate as I can make them. It will be for the House to determine how to deal with this matter, but I believe I have a duty to make my own position plain in advance and I hope the House will understand and respect my reasons for doing so."

Mr Benn's threat has raised new uncertainty over the affair. He can be removed from

Continued on page 2, col 6

CHRIS HARRIS



Benn: "My first responsibility is to those who have elected me . . . they are entitled to know what is being done"

Flash! Bang! Out come the goodies

Commons Sketch by Matthew Parris

LIKE so many much-hyped parliamentary occasions, the fireworks came from the backbenches. The Commons Big Debate on committee secrecy brought a sure-footed but safety-first statement from House Leader Tony Newton, and an alarming development on the Labour front bench — a dull speech from John Prescott.

Tony Benn and Ted Heath, were the stars of the afternoon. After 43 years in Parliament, Mr Benn never ceases to amaze. He is like those Christmas crackers packed with mystery surprises. You pull the taper, there is a flash, a bang, and out pops a selection of weird goodies. There might be a wise saying of Confucius or Marx, a proverb or a piece of folk wisdom. There might be a tin whistle, a mini-tape-recording of Cabinet discussions in 1963, a joke or a toy gun. But of this you can be sure. The package will contain at least one passage of wonderful oratory and at least one completely crackpot proposal. There will be a concealed puff for his own place in history, and an oblique sideswipe at a colleague.

As ever, Benn was at his most moving in what you might call the secular sermon. With clarity and passion he argued that Parliament must inspire public trust. "I'm not by instinct a muck-raker," he said — afterwards moving cannily to a position calculated to extract daily publicity from muck-raking by others. He reminded us not only how long he had been in the House, but that he had won 15 elections. "But I'm not going to go into that".

Using as his pretext a question from Dennis Skinner, which he never answered, he reminded us of his own derring-do getting into Parliament — "but I'm not going to go into that".

Then came a significant little vignette. Peter Butler (C, Milton Keynes NE) put to Mr Benn, with courtesy, a powerful resumé of the argument against public hearings.

Benn wholly ignored Butler's question and answered another: but he did so with such intensity that an audience would shake its head, assume it was they who had misheard, and overlook the crazy mismatch between question and answer.

Then came the crackpot proposal. Benn suggested that not just the hearings of the committee, but its deliberations, should take place in public. It is sometimes hard to believe that such idealism and such guile, such insight and such cockeyed judgment, could cohabit within the breast of one man.

Sir Edward Heath spoke next. He thought this last proposal "a bridge too far". Sir Edward's speeches lumber forward a little testily but with the hint of just an occasional twirl for spectators, rather like one of his pandas. Like the pandas, they retain a certain charm.

There was a moment, when Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman tried to interrupt from behind him, to which no record of the debate can do justice. "Yes?" he grunted. A word, a tone, expressing an ocean of disparagement, exasperation and weary courtesy. Whatever the Committee of Privileges decides, there is no substitute for watching things as they happen.

Brittan relents and stays at heart of Europe

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN LUXEMBOURG

SIR Leon Brittan swallowed his dented pride yesterday and accepted a job in the new European Commission headed by Jacques Santer.

Sir Leon announced his decision after a brief and apparently cordial meeting with Mr Santer, the President of the Commission. Asked if he had requested for or been offered any inducements to stay in the job, Sir Leon said that none had been requested or given.

But it is probable that Sir Leon will get a consolation prize after losing the bruising weekend fight over job specifications. Mr Santer it seems is likely to try and arrange that Sir Leon is voted into one of two vice-presidencies of the Commission.

Sir Leon, told a press conference that his decision had been "rather difficult" since he had been "naturally disappointed" to lose control of European Union policy towards Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. But on reflection, he had decided that the job he had been offered — external world trade policy and all relations with America, Japan and China — offered a "major challenge".

British ministers had piled pressure on Sir Leon, and he was pressed yesterday morning by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. Sir Leon later said that he wanted to be at the heart of the debate over the future shape of the EU and "the best place to argue this is in the Commission".

Sources close to Sir Leon said he had quickly discarded the idea of resigning in a fit of pique and accepted the flattering arguments being put that no other Tory nominee could match his leverage inside the European Commission.

Centre-left shift, page 14
Alan Clark, page 18

Missing plane: two feared dead

A leading Irish lawyer and a prominent building consultant were feared dead last night after a light aircraft went missing over the Irish Sea.

The Cessna single engine 175 plane was piloted by Alan Cooke, 51, a quantity surveyor from Douglas on the Isle of Man. His passenger was Michael Gray, 41, a familiar figure in Dublin legal circles.

Bullies face jail

Three schoolboy bullies who took part in a brutal assault on a fellow pupil were told that they face lengthy custodial sentences after being convicted at Southampton Crown court .....Page 3

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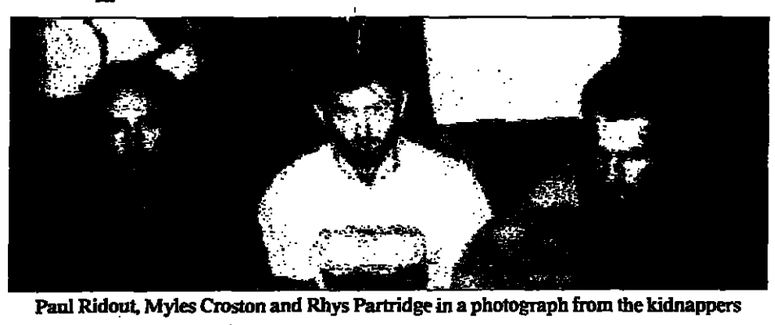
Kashmiri captors vow to kill Britons

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI AND ROBIN YOUNG

A KASHMIRI Islamic group last night threatened to behead three Britons taken hostage in central Delhi unless ten jailed militants were released by the Indian government.

The Foreign Office yesterday said that the threats had to be taken "very seriously". It was not clear when the Britons were abducted but they had not been heard from since October 12.

The group had also seized an American, who was found shackled in chains to an iron post at the back of a house in the industrial town of Ghaziabad, 12 miles west of Delhi. He was discovered by a policeman checking for stolen cars. Armed police waited in hiding for the militants to return. Two of them did so and there was a shootout. One was critically ill with bullet wounds. The other escaped.



Paul Ridout, Myles Croston and Rhys Partridge in a photograph from the kidnappers

The American, Bela Joseph Nuss, was being debriefed by police.

The Britons, Paul Ridout, 26, from Verwood in Dorset; Myles Croston, 28, from Amersham, Buckinghamshire; and Rhys Partridge, 27, from Martlesham, Suffolk, were seized in a separate incident. A man handed in photographs of the captives to the BBC and Voice of America offices in Delhi along with notes stating that they would be killed unless their demands were met.

The organisation identified itself as Al Hadid, a largely unknown group, which said it was based in the Afghan tribal areas. It presumably perceives its campaign to be part of a *jihad* (holy war) in Kashmir. This is the first time that kidnappings have been extended to foreigners beyond the disputed territory, which will unnerve tourists.

Rhys Patridge's mother, Pamela, said last night: "I still cannot believe that this has happened. Rhys is my only child." Mr Ridout's father, Michael, speaking from the offices of his consultancy company, Ridout Associates, said: "We just have to wait and hope. We are in the hands of the Foreign Office." Mr Croston's mother, Rosemary, said that she had last had news of her son when Paul Ridout telephoned home on October 13.

Flood fear as rivers put on alert

TORRENTIAL rain caused chaos across southern England yesterday with rivers on flood alert and roads closed.

The National Rivers Authority said red alerts for imminent flooding were in force on five rivers after up to four inches of rain in some parts of the South West over the weekend.

Houses in Weare Gifford and Taddiport, near Bideford, Devon, were flooded and some residents evacuated. The A396 in east Devon was closed at Bickleigh and Oakford because of the swollen Exe.

Stretches of the Ely, near Cardiff, yesterday reached the third-highest level since records began in 1974.

The London Weather Centre said more heavy rain was expected to start in the South West on Wednesday.

Forecast, page 22

Britain sees doubling of million-pound earners

BY ROSS TIEMAN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE number of people in Britain who earned more than £1 million doubled last year, according to a survey.

Research by Monks Partnership, the pay consultants, showed that the number of million-pound bosses of British public companies rose to 16 in 1993.

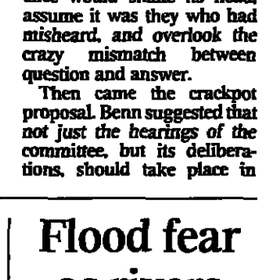
In a separate survey by the Labour Party, Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer, was on top of a list of best-rewarded bosses after paying himself almost £25 million in wages and dividends. The Labour Party says it has identified 32 directors of British companies who earned more than £1 million in dividends last year.

Lloyd Webber made £13.3 million in dividends from his Really Useful Company, which stages his musicals. This was a fall from 1992 when he made more than £15 million, but was on top of an £11.3 million salary.

The Labour Party's list of top dividend earners also includes David Sainsbury, the chairman of the supermarket group (£11.1 million) Paul Hamlyn, a Labour supporter, who made more than £4.5 million and Peter Gabriel, the pop star, who took in almost £1 million. The Monks Partnership list of top wage earners is led by Peter Wood, the founder of Direct Line insurance, who made £18.5 million, after allowing the Royal Bank of Scotland to buy out his earnings-related bonus arrangements in an effort to escape the controversy over the scale of his remuneration.

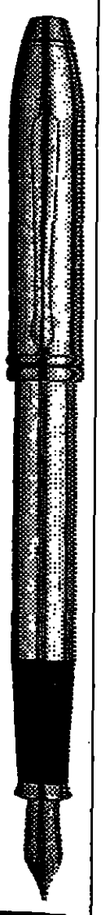
The average increase for the chairmen or chief executives of Britain's 988 quoted industrial companies, was 5.8 per cent, more than twice the level of inflation. The figures are expected to re-kindle the row over top peoples' pay. The million-a-year men include Tiny Rowland, of international trading and mining group Lonrho (£1.62 million), and Lord Hanson, head of the Hanson conglomerate (£1.36 million), who are well-known for the size of their pay packets. But the list is being enlarged by younger newcomers including Greg Hutchings chief executive of Tomkins (£1.2 million), Richard Oster of Cookson Group (£1.11 million) and Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, the chairman of Kingfisher (£1.05 million).

The survey shows that seven of the top 16 earners are employed by banks or financial institutions. Some of these remain anonymous in companies' annual reports and were paid massive bonuses after last year's bumper conditions in the share and gilt markets.



Lloyd Webber: £25m in wages and dividends

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'I have done nothing dishonest, I have nothing to fear from this programme'

FA backs Venables as he denies new financial allegations

BY JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

THE Football Association was standing by Terry Venables last night, despite new allegations about how the England coach raised a £1 million loan for his joint bid for Tottenham Hotspur with Alan Sugar.

The accusations were made in a second *Panorama* investigation into Mr Venables's business dealings, shown on BBC1 last night. But the FA continued to support the man it has chosen to lead the national team into the 1996 European Championship, the biggest sports event staged in Britain since the 1966 World Cup.

It is understood that Mr Venables's position as England coach would become untenable only if he were convicted of a criminal offence, arising out of any allegations in the two *Panorama* programmes and other media investigations.

Mr Venables denied the allegations in the first programme, broadcast in September last year, and subsequently started libel proceedings. In a statement issued by his solicitors last night, he said: "My position remains as before — that I have done nothing dishonest, I have nothing to fear from this programme and that it is just another step in a bitter campaign to discredit me." The programme, "The Manager and his Money", focused on the financial affairs of *Edennote, a company which* Mr Venables owned and used to launch his takeover bid for Tottenham in 1991 with Mr Sugar, chairman of Amstrad. Mr Venables was sacked as chief executive of Tottenham in May 1993 and is pursuing a case for unfair dismissal.

The Serious Fraud Office confirmed at the weekend that papers relating to Edennote, which collapsed last year, had been passed to it by the Department of Trade and Industry. It was reported to be considering an investigation. The BBC programme questioned Mr Venables's account of how the loan for his bid was secured. *Panorama* claimed that it was not an unsecured loan, as Mr Venables has stated in his recent autobiography, but was linked to a sale and leasing agreement on pubs owned by a firm, Transatlantic Inns, of which Mr Venables was a director. It has been alleged that one of the pubs, named as The Miners in Cardiff, did not exist.

The investigation also claimed that Mr Venables tried to avoid meeting his loan responsibilities when the written guarantee went missing from a safe at Landhurst Leasing, the company that provided the money.

Eddie Ashby, Mr Venables's personal assistant, has insisted that the England coach has proof that the allegations about the Landhurst Leasing loan and *Transatlantic Inns assets were* untrue. "We never used any of the assets as security. It was an unsecured loan," he said.

Mr Ashby added that to his knowledge Mr Venables "never provided a personal guarantee and as for the pub that does not exist, we have never heard of that either".



Sugar: bid for Spurs with Venables in 1991



Terry Venables leaving home yesterday before *Panorama* was broadcast

Crime victims to be consulted over prisoners' leave

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

VICTIMS of serious crime will be consulted by the Prison Service before their attackers are given temporary release or home leave, under proposals to be announced within the next month.

The Prison Service will pay particular attention to victims of sexual attack and violent robbery but victims will not be able to veto proposals to allow an inmate to leave jail.

Derek Lewis, director-general of the Prison Service, said yesterday: "If an individual does qualify for home leave, what we can do is make sure that he does not take home leave in the area where the victim lives."

The opinion of the police and the prisoner's behaviour while in jail will also be taken into account before an inmate is given home leave, which will in future be allowed only at a later stage of a sentence.

The tougher approach is part of a package of measures intended to increase discipline in jails. Privileges will have to be earned by prisoners, rather than being a right.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, will unveil the first big overhaul of home-leave regulations in 30 years after a series of incidents that have caused public alarm. Last month the Prison Service was criticised for giving temporary release to a rapist serving a sentence in Earlestoke Prison in Wiltshire.

Mr Howard told the prison service annual conference in Solihull yesterday that the changes were needed to restore confidence. Most prisoners, except those in Category A, are eligible for home leave after serving between a third and a half of their sentence. There were 2,500 breaches in last year.

"Assessment must take account of the views of the police and of victims and not rest solely on performance in prison. The revisions will also signal that leave must be for a precise purpose, for authorised training or educational activities that cannot yet be provided in every establishment: for resettlement and c.. compassionate reasons," Mr Howard said.

The Home Secretary said conditions in the 133 prisons and jails in England and Wales must be "decent but austere" and announced that, after allegations that officers at Whitemoor Prison had bought lobster for top-security inmates, in future prison officers would not purchase luxury food for inmates.

He also announced an end to allowing prisoners unchecked and free use of telephones and a ban on prisoners conducting businesses from within prisons. This follows allegations that Peter Clowes, serving a sentence following the collapse of the Barlow Clowes company, was running a business from jail.

Prison governors welcomed the move towards a regime based on incentives but said that it would have to be introduced with great sensitivity.

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Oil-spill vessel had nine defects

BY STAFF REPORTERS

POLLUTION experts were last night assessing the likely damage after a Russian factory ship was wrecked off Shetland, spewing thick oil into the sea, as pressure increased for stricter controls on similar Eastern European "klondyker" vessels.

More than half the 117 "klondykers" inspected at sea off northern Scotland since July had defects which would have led to them being detained had the inspections been carried out in port, it was disclosed.

Meanwhile the 10,000-tonne Kaliningrad-registered *Pionersk* lay stuck on rocks two miles south of Lerwick after dragging her anchor in a gale. All 155 people on board were rescued by helicopter and lifeboat in a three-hour overnight operation carried out in darkness and high winds.

Last night the ship was broken-backed but not yet broken in two. Coastguards said it was not considered refloatable in its condition.

The last inspection of the *Pionersk* was on August 17, when nine defects were found, two of them serious, according to Frank Duffin, the Marine Safety Agency's district chief surveyor for the east coast of Scotland.

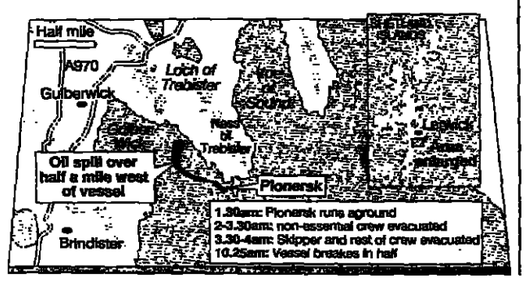
The ship's emergency generator did not work when agency inspectors tried it out and the emergency lighting failed to operate. But Mr Duffin added: "From what I have heard of the incident, whether or not these repairs were carried out, they would have had no effect whatsoever."

But if the ship had been tied up in port when the inspection was carried out, it would have been prohibited from sailing until the faults had been rectified, he said.

The Coastguard Agency said a pollution spotter plane had reported a line of oil stretching southwards from the ship for 1.5 km and up to 400 metres wide. The ship was carrying about 550 tonnes of diesel and fuel oil and 240 tonnes of fish.

Jim Wallace, Liberal Democrat MP for Orkney and Shetland, said: "It is difficult to find words to express our frustration and serious concern that Shetland is having to deal with yet another vessel going aground."

Photograph, page 22



Ex-owner of sunken ship on six death charges

BY TONY DAWE

THE former owner of the trawler *Pescado*, which sank off the Cornish coast three years ago with the loss of all six crew, was charged with their manslaughter yesterday.

The decision to charge Joseph O'Connor of Plymouth with six counts of manslaughter was made by the Crown Prosecution Service after a police investigation lasting two and a half years, which included raising the vessel 250ft from the sea bed.

Detectives from the Devon and Cornwall force were urged to pursue their inquiries by relatives of the dead, who were concerned at the seaworthiness of the *Pescado* despite the findings of an official inquiry that the sinking had been an accident.

The trawler was last seen leaving Falmouth, Cornwall, on February 25, 1991, and several days later wreckage and the body of the cook, Jo-Ann Thomas, 22, of Plymouth, were discovered.

The Crown Prosecution Service announced yesterday that summonses had also been issued against Alan Ayres, 55, of Plymouth, who funded the most recent repairs to the trawler, "for one offence contrary to Section 30 of the Merchant Shipping Act" which is concerned with "sending an unsafe ship to sea".

Mr O'Connor has also been charged with an offence under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981.

The two men will appear before magistrates in Plymouth on January 26.

Benn will defy Commons

Continued from page 1

the committee only by a decision of the full House, an event that could further embarrass the Government.

Sir Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, was among those who backed a change in the committee procedures, urging that hearings should generally be held in public but with scope for private sessions. It was essential that the House "should reestablish itself on the high opinions of the public", he said.

Defending the Government's position Tony Newton, the Commons Leader, said public hearings might constrain committee members from asking all the questions they wanted, and he warned that outside witnesses might use parliamentary privilege "to make any allegation, however unfounded, against anyone they chose to name".

Mr Newton rejected what he termed "a halfway house" of part-public, part-private hearings, as suggested by the Labour motion.

But Mr Prescott said that Parliament's reputation had to be improved. "We must restore the esteem of Parliament, and this is the first step. It is not, as has been suggested, an invitation to peddle any old allegation in public."

At the heart of the debate, he said, was whether the public trusted MPs to investigate other MPs, "free from party-political considerations, and I fear that, in the current climate, they do not".

Sir Cranley Onslow, former chairman of the Tory 1922 Committee, said that public meetings would be a "media circus".

"I regard it as absolutely essential that individual witnesses should be protected when the proceedings might result in the committee recommending a penalty against them — whether they are MPs or editors of national newspapers. We have a duty of natural justice to provide protection for those appearing before us."

Lord Tebbit, speaking in a House of Lords debate on Europe, said: "One should have better taste than to read a newspaper edited by a man who forges and steals."

Mr Newton, speaking of Mr Benn's threat, said: "I think that would be most irresponsible. I don't believe anyone in this House supports you in that view. I hope you will rethink your position."

Meanwhile as Conservative MPs went on the attack against *The Guardian*, the senior civil servant whose signature was faked on the fax sent to the Ritz, reacted yesterday to the use of his name.

Jeremy Wright, Mr Aitken's former private secretary, and now private secretary to his successor as defence procurement minister, Roger Freeman, said: "I did not sign the fax and I had no part in its creation."

Mohamed Al-Fayed, the Harrods chief, kept up his war against the Government by publicly challenging Mr Aitken over his statement that his wife had paid the bill for his stay at the Ritz.

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Schoolboy bullies face long spell behind bars

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THREE schoolboy bullies were told yesterday that they face lengthy custodial sentences after being convicted of a brutal assault on a fellow pupil. Daniel Jewell, 15, was left fighting for life in hospital after he was set upon on the way home from lessons.

His three attackers — Christopher Brammer, Scott Frampton and Loui Thomas — punched and kicked him repeatedly as he lay on the ground. One of the bullies described the assault to Southampton Crown Court as "what normally happens around school".

A group of passing children who witnessed the attack told the court they were sickened by the violence. Daniel struggled home after the attack but later collapsed in front of his father. He was rushed to hospital and found to have internal bleeding. Doctors said he could have died from his injuries.

The three boys were convicted of causing grievous bodily harm with intent. Judge McLean told them: "A lengthy custodial sentence is inevitable." Brammer and Frampton, both 16, and Thomas, 15, were remanded into the care of the local authority while pre-sentence reports are compiled. They will be sentenced on November 21.

When the verdicts were delivered the families of the boys wept in the public gallery but the youths showed no emotion. The court had been told that Daniel was a "natural victim" of bullies and had been picked on by Frampton and Brammer at Testwood Secondary School, Totton, Hampshire. Thomas was a friend of Brammer and Frampton but went to a different school. Anthony Davies, for the prosecution, said that Daniel's studious, bespectacled appearance and quiet voice meant he was a "soft target" for the thugs.

Mr Davies said Daniel was attacked in a lane at Totton as he walked home from school in April. He added: "There were kicks to the shin, to the back and to the stomach. Once he had gone to the ground, the attack continued. Each kicked him several times as he lay on the ground. They must have appreciated, as they went into that attack with such viciousness, that the person they were attacking was going to sustain really serious injury," he said.

Frampton told the court that the attack was all part of a normal school day. He said he picked on Daniel because he was "a bit weird".

He said: "I didn't realise what damage had been caused. I did intend to hurt him, but not give him those sort of injuries. It was just what normally happens around school." Daniel, who has made a full recovery, and his father, Danny, sat through most of the five-day trial but were not in court to hear the verdicts. Mr Jewell said afterwards: "These boys nearly killed my son and they have got what they deserved."

Daniel said: "They were waiting for me when I came out of school. I tried to run away but I wasn't fast enough. They kept kicking me and there was nothing I could do. I thought I was going to die." Daniel left school this summer and went to a nearby technical college. He said: "I know it's too late for me but I hope my story helps to save other children from bully boys."

Margaret Capsomides, head teacher at Testwood School, said: "This has deeply shocked us all. On the rare occasions when bullying does occur pupils know they must tell a teacher."



Daniel Jewell, left, failed to escape his attackers. Scott Frampton, Christopher Brammer and Loui Thomas

Born Free charity chiefs win damages for libel

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE leaders of the Born Free Foundation were given a public apology and substantial undisclosed libel damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations of incompetence and financial exploitation.

William Travers, chief executive of the animal charity, and three trustees, his mother Virginia McKenna, the actress Joanna Lumley and Terry Dickinson, a businessman, had sued Flamingo Land leisure park in North Yorkshire and Robert Gibb, its director, after a phone-in broadcast on BBC Radio Leeds last year.

Rupert Grey, their solicitor, told Mr Justice Morland that the programme had discussed living conditions of animals in zoos. During the broadcast Mr Gibb claimed Mr Travers's level of knowledge, experience and expertise in the animal field was "absolutely zero" and that the foundation was responsible for the deaths of various animals, including six Sumatran tigers relocated in India after being in its care. In fact, four of the tigers were still alive and the other two had died of natural causes, Mr Grey said.

Mr Gibb also questioned the conduct of Miss McKenna and her late husband, Bill Travers, during the making of the 1964 film *Born Free*. He accused the couple of deliberately separating 20 cubs from their mothers to make the film, when in fact they had had no say in recruiting the animals.

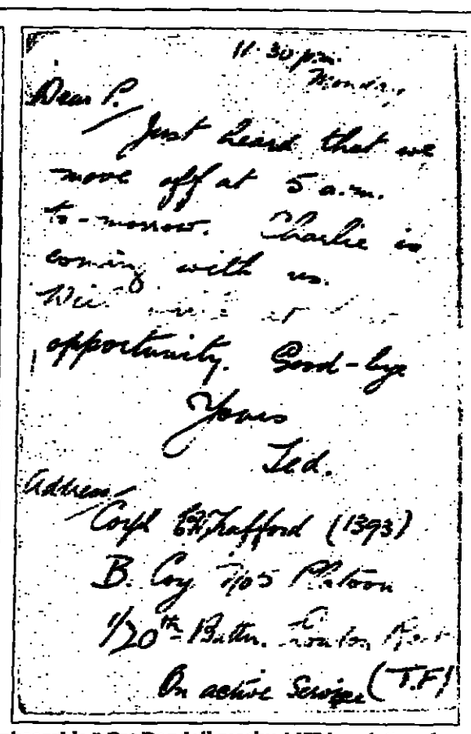
Mr Gibb went on falsely to allege that the Travers family took an elephant away from its mother to be taken to London Zoo; that the foundation was a "money-making milk train for this family to latch on to", and that the family refused to pay a vet his proper fees in connection with the rehabilitation of three dolphins to the wild. Through their lawyers, Mr Gibb and Flamingo Land apologised and retracted "each and every" allegation.

Miss McKenna said after the hearing: "When we first brought this action in the spring of this year, it caused great distress and heartache to us all, and to my late husband Bill. I know that he would be pleased by today's outcome."



McKenna: case caused "great heartache"





11.30 pm Monday

Dear P.

Just heard that we move off at 5 a.m. to-morrow. Charlie is coming with us. We've had a good opportunity. Good-bye

Yours

Ted.

Address

Corpl E.R. Trafford (1393)

B. Coy 7th Platoon

1/20th Battn. London Regt

On active Service (T.F.)



"Your letters comfort me. Without them life would be unbearable." Pat Randall received 177 love letters from her fiancé, Ted Trafford, serving on the Western Front

Testament to love outlives slaughter of the trenches

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE 177 love letters written by Lance Corporal Ted Trafford from the trenches of the Western Front were intended only for the eyes of the fiancée he had left behind. Now, nearly 80 years later, they are to reach a wider public as a testament to the strength of love in war.

Wounded in the foot at the Somme and invalided home, Ted married his childhood sweetheart Pat Randall in 1917. The couple's younger son, Dr Peter Trafford, now 74 and a retired Somerset GP, decided the letters were too important and too poignant to remain hidden forever in his loft. *Love and War: The Letters of Ted Trafford* is published by Burleigh Press of Bristol at £10. All profits will go the Star and Garter Home for disabled ex-servicemen in Richmond upon Thames.

Ted and Pat, who lived next door to each other in Lewisham, south London, declared their engagement the night before he sailed for France in 1915. From the Western Front he wrote imploring her to buy a ring, and suggesting that £6 would be about the right amount to spend.

They appear to have spent their last night together in St Albans, as in an early letter he wrote: "Darling, I suppose it does seem a long while since that eventful night in St Albans. So much has happened that it seems a long time since I last saw your dear face with those eyes of yours — such eyes — just brimming."

Amid his stories of life in the trenches there is always a note of tenderness: "Your letters are to me as a little of personality sent through the post to comfort and inspire me. Without them for any length of time life here would be almost unbearable. With all my love, yours, Ted."

Dr Trafford said yesterday that the letters, tied with pink ribbon and stored in the loft of his parents' house, had been his mother's proudest possession until her death 30 years ago. "It was so obvious that they loved each other . . . I don't think he would mind them being published."

One secret that their son has been unable to unravel is how Ted, serving in the 20th London, came to win the Military Medal for bravery. Although wounded in the Somme offensive, he married, had two children, become a senior tax inspector, and died in 1972 at the age of 80.

Pat answered every one of Ted's letters. But in the mud and carnage of the Somme, her replies were all lost.



Dr Peter Trafford

Second TA cadet dies after Land Rover fire

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A SECOND female Oxford undergraduate died yesterday as a result of severe burns suffered when a Land Rover overturned and burst into flames during a Territorial Army exercise on Salisbury Plain at the weekend.

Becky Norris, 20, suffered more than 70 per cent burns in the accident, which killed her friend Karen Buttenshaw on Saturday. The two students were riding in the front of a Land Rover across rough terrain on Salisbury Plain when the vehicle rolled over and caught fire. A Sergeant Major who was travelling with them suffered extensive burns and was described as "seriously ill but comfortable".

The two women were students at Oxford Brookes University and had enrolled in the Officer Training Corps, part of the Territorial Army.

Divisional Officer Paul Fuller, of Wiltshire Fire Service, was called to the the accident. He said: "The Land Rover was upside down but not gutted by fire.

"It was a very severe fire, restricted to the passenger area but at this stage we cannot shed any light on why the Land Rover overturned or what led to it catching fire."

Miss Norris, from Maidstone, Kent, was a second-year adult nursing student. Ruth Champion, head of the school of health care studies, described her as a "delightful, bubbly girl". She said: "This accident has had a traumatic effect on our students."

Town mourns four dead in crash

BY BILL FROST

A SMALL town was in mourning last night together with the families of four young people, including a brother and sister, who died when their car collided head-on with a minibus.

Terry Corbett, who lost his 20-year-old son Paul and daughter Julie, 18, in the accident, said: "I cannot find the words to describe the loss of one child, but to lose two is just too much. I am just numb. You expect them to come through the door at any time."

Police named the two others who died as Peter Townson, 23, and Gillian Pestle, 17. All four were friends from Sawbridgeworth in Hertfordshire.

Another brother and sister from the town travelling in the same car were said to be "fighting for their lives" after the collision. Geoffrey Watkinson, 25, and his 20-year-old sister, Sarah, were taken to the Princess Alexandra hospital in Harlow, Essex, with multiple injuries.

The Skoda Estelle saloon was split into three pieces by the force of the collision on the A1184 outside Harlow late on Sunday night, police said. The car hit a small coach carrying jazz musicians from the Pasadena Roof Orchestra who were returning from a tour of Germany. The driver and his passengers, all from Little Hallingbury, Hertfordshire, were uninjured.

Mr Townson, who is believed to have been driving the car, is thought to have lost control in what were described as appalling weather conditions. Inspector Brian Taplin, of Essex Police, said: "There was very heavy rain at the time. The Skoda veered on to the wrong side of the road hit the minibus. The driver of the minibus saw what was happening and tried to take evasive action, but it was too late. For the parents of those who died the suffering must be quite unimaginable."

Terry Corbett said: "Paul had some identification on him, so police told me it was him who had been killed when they rang up. But I had to go to the hospital to identify my daughter. I just can't believe it's happened. We're still shocked."

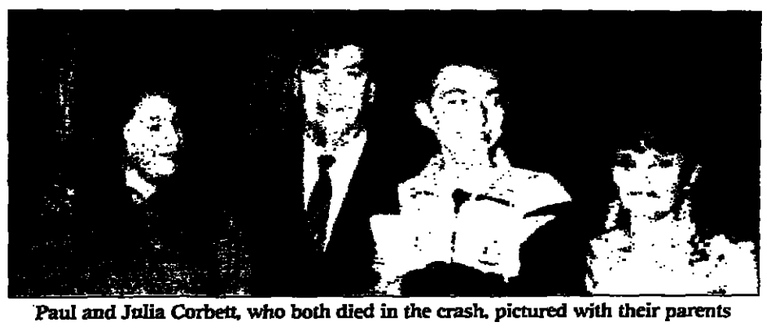
The landlord of a pub where the six regularly met said yesterday that the town village was in "a state of collective mourning".

Those who died had been among the "best-loved and most popular" young people in the town. Gary Barnett, landlord of The Gate in Sawbridgeworth, said he was the last person to see Julie and Gillian alive.

"They were here with Sarah and Geoff drinking Coca Cola on Sunday night and talking about a forthcoming darts match — they were all in the team.

"I just can't believe what has happened, no-one can. We are all devastated. It is just horrible, quite beyond words."

Canon Rupert Child, the vicar of Sawbridgeworth for 20 years, said: "I feel that everybody is stunned. People are near to tears when they talk about it."



Paul and Julia Corbett, who both died in the crash, pictured with their parents

Yachting Britons badly burnt

A BRITISH businessman and his teenage niece suffered 90 per cent burns after their 24ft yacht caught fire on the French Riviera.

Keith Howell, 57, from west London, and Christina di Paola, 17, from Glasgow, were last night in the burns unit of a military hospital in Toulon, where doctors described their chances of survival as bad. Mr Howell's partner Cecilia McAuley and her nephew Niall McGregor, from southwest London, 15, escaped virtually unhurt.

Police believe the fire, which broke out aboard *Lady Sylvester*, moored at Beaulieu-Sur-Mer, before dawn on Sunday, was started by an electrical fault, caused perhaps when batteries were changed.

A neighbouring Italian yachtsman heard their cries and drove the victims half a mile to a police station. From there they were taken first by ambulance to Nice and then by helicopter to Toulon.

Wife was killed on anniversary

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

LAUREN Williamson, found murdered in her crashed car, died as she headed home early from work to celebrate her wedding anniversary with her husband, it was disclosed yesterday.

Mrs Williamson, 44, of Bordon, Hampshire, had agreed to give a teenage workmate a lift home. Lee Tyson was feeling ill after a champagne reception held by Snell and Wilcox, the electronics company for which they both worked, to celebrate the receipt of a Queen's Award for Export.

Later Mr Tyson, 18, a trainee test engineer, was found seriously injured and trapped behind the wheel of Mrs Williamson's Ford Fiesta XR2 after it had been involved in a head-on collision in Greatham, Hampshire.

Yesterday, as an inquest on Mrs Williamson was opened and adjourned by the North Hampshire coroner, police continued to wait at Mr Tyson's bedside at an intensive care unit at the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford. The teenager, from Whitehill, Hampshire, is under arrest, but because of the extent of his injuries police have yet to question him.

Kevin Melia, a spokesman for Snell and Wilcox, said: "I understand Lauren offered to give the young man a lift home. This was something she had done before because they lived in the same direction."

As police interviewed Mrs Williamson's heartbroken husband, Graham, officers publically ruled out any suggestion of a romantic link between his wife and Mr Tyson.

Mr Melia said Mrs Williamson, who had no children, had worked for the firm for 25 years as a production superviser. "She was a lovely woman, very respectable and very well liked," he said. "It has left the company deeply shocked. We are like a family here."

He said Mr Tyson had worked at the firm for 12 months, but was not in the same department as the dead woman.



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Retired judges rally to defend reputation of 'worst justice'

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

RETIRED judges have leapt to the defence of the late and infamous Mr Justice Melford Stevenson after a former Court of Appeal judge described him as the worst since the war. Stevenson advocated the death penalty for all murderers, disliked "do-gooders" and called the 1967 Act legalising homosexuality a "buggers' charter".

The dispute over the reputation of Sir Melford, who retired in 1979 and died in 1987, comes in the wake of comments by Sir Robin Dunn in his memoirs, *Sword and Wig*.Sir Robin emphasised yesterday that he had just been expressing an opinion.

Speaking from his home near Minehead, Somerset, he said: "He was very witty indeed but very cruel. I don't think judges ought to behave like that."

However Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, and Sir Frederick Lawton, a former Court of Appeal judge, took issue with Sir Robin.

Sir Robin said yesterday that Stevenson's "savage sentencing" was often out of line with guidance from the Court of Appeal. "He would then be turned over by the Court of Appeal." But, Sir Robin added, Stevenson "could not care a rat" about criticisms made about him at the time.

Sir Robin, 76, said that during the trial of the Kray twins, in an adjournment, Stevenson had said that Ronnie Kray "was a nicer man than the QC representing him", John Platts-Mills.

In his book, Sir Robin said he formed his view of the late judge not so much because of his sentencing but because he did not know how to behave and could not resist an unjudicial, if witty, intervention.

Yesterday, however, Sir Frederick Lawton, 83, who knew Stevenson well, said: "Melford was a very complex character. When you knew him well, you appreciated that he was a very compassionate judge; he always saw if there really was merit in the case.

"His trouble was he could not always control his temper. He was extremely witty and would say things that were not really in his own interest or in the interest of justice."

Sir Frederick had handled appeals from sentences imposed by Sir Melford and said he had no recollection that they were "unduly severe".

"Ninety per cent of the time he was an excellent judge — it really was only occasionally, very largely through his emotional reaction to what he considered to be an unpleasant crime, and his propensity to wittiness, that he would say these things."

Lord Denning, 95, said: "In many ways he was held in high respect because of his robust common sense. "He had many faults but he was a very powerful, forceful judge and was held in considerable public regard. The comments go very far, further than I would go. But I admit Sir Robin is a first-rate observer and he was one of our best judges of our time."

Law, page 35

THE WORST OF THE WORST

Mr Justice Melford Stevenson's caustic remarks insulted as much as they amused.

- Of a man in a divorce case: "He chose to live in Manchester, a wholly incomprehensible choice for any free man to make."
- To a man acquitted of rape: "I see you come from Slough. It is a terrible place. You can go back there."
- In another rape case: "It was an anaemic rape, as rapes go".
- Passing sentence in a bribery case: "You have tried, and to some extent succeeded, in converting Birmingham into a municipal Gomorrah."
- During the Kray twins' trial, he observed they had told the truth twice: first, one brother referred to his barrister as a "fat slob", and second, the other claimed the judge was biased.

CHRIS HARRIS



Helen Suzman, left, former South African MP, with Odette Hallowes, a Second World War resistance worker

Blind skier wins Frink Award

A WOMAN who overcame degenerative eye disease to become a physiotherapist and champion skier yesterday received the Frink Award at the Women of the Year lunch in London.

Vicki Sheen, 32, from Brixham, Devon, trained with the Paralympics ski team in Norway last year and was awarded the Erik Dilk Memorial Cup as the best female disabled skier. She is also a keen swimmer, scuba diver and horsewoman and said her ambition was to try hang-gliding and microlight gliding.

Mrs Sheen said: "Having a disability doesn't have to be a handicap — everybody has some sort of limitation. Mine is obvious, but everyone has an impairment whether it's physique, financial or family."

Guests at the annual luncheon included Odette Hallowes, a resistance worker and spy during the Second World War, and Helen Suzman, a civil rights activist who for six years was the only woman in the South African parliament. They joined an all-female gathering of 500, including the Duchess of Gloucester, Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions, and the comedienne Sandi Toksvig.



Sheen: hopes to try hang-gliding

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hospital error award

A 28-year-old man who was severely brain damaged as a baby and only recently discovered that he was the victim of a hospital blunder was provisionally awarded £1.05 million by the High Court.

Andrew Hatchley, through his mother, Margaret, of Thetford, Norfolk, had sued Norwich Health Authority and East Anglian Regional Health Authority. Mr Justice French adjourned the case for a structured settlement.

Two in court

Andrew Mitchell, 26, of Birmingham, and Darren Tyndale, 25, of no fixed address, were remanded in custody by Birmingham magistrates charged with attempting to murder Martin Maynard and Philip Elinne, undercover policemen shot during a crack cocaine raid.

Turtle saved

A turtle was taken to Chester Zoo after it spent 17 hours in the cargo hold of a flight to Manchester from Hong Kong, wrapped in plastic in a tinfoil-wrapped shuebox inside a suitcase.

Milkman held

A milkman in Bicester, Oxfordshire, was held up at 3am by a masked knifeman who forced him to drive around the town for 1½ hours and then robbed him.

In the air

British Airways resumes flights to Bucharest in Romania after a 12-year gap.

Dentists reject plan to reform charges

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

DENTISTS yesterday rejected proposals that are expected to result in a sharp rise in charges to patients.

The British Dental Association (BDA) said that dentists all over the country had turned down the plans for the reform of NHS dentistry set out in a Green Paper last July, after an unprecedented consultation exercise.

Patients would have more difficulty obtaining NHS treatment, might not be seen by the dentist of their choice and might not be able to receive the treatment they want. The association said that the Green Paper proposals were wholly unacceptable and predicted serious consequences for patients.

The response is the latest salvo in a dispute that began two years ago when the Government cut dentists' fees by 7 per cent because, it said, they had been overpaid. Ministers have been seeking a way of reforming the outdated piecework system of payment for dentists without increasing costs.

Dental patients already pay 80 per cent of treatment costs. Now the Government wants all adults to pay the full cost of NHS restorative work but is proposing a reduction in the £3.92 check-up fee. It will mean that crowns now costing £59.32 would rise to £81.36 and dentures that cost £81.36 would increase to £101.70.

People unable to obtain NHS treatment — as an increasing number of dentists opt out of the system — would be forced to pay as much as £300 for a crown and £400 for dentures.

The BDA said the plans would increase bureaucracy to the detriment of patients. Dentists are particularly angry over government claims that each dentist has been overpaid by £15,000.

Villagers keep gossip shop open

BY A STAFF REPORTER

RESIDENTS of a Norfolk village have saved their local shop from closure by buying it themselves after agreeing that it was a vital source of gossip.

The 180 residents of Itteringham bought the shop after Brian Fairhead, the owner, died last month and his 80-year-old widow Dorothy announced that she could not keep the store open alone.

Villagers immediately formed the Itteringham Community Shop Association to run the shop themselves. Within two days they raised £4,000 in donations and pledges to buy the stock and lease the store. It is now staffed by a team of 22 volunteers.

Mary Savage, a volunteer, said the village had been spared "a disaster". She added: "It is the heart of the village and the only place we have to swap gossip."

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Mayhew emphasises caution over talks with Sinn Fein

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

THE Government's exploratory talks with Sinn Fein may be delayed after an increase in IRA punishment beatings and reports of dummy attacks, the Northern Ireland Secretary hinted yesterday.

Speaking in Londonderry, Sir Patrick Mayhew said that since the IRA was intact, the Government would continue to be cautious. "I don't doubt that the IRA war machine is still in existence. Whether it is still in operation or not is *something to which we attach* considerable importance."

He would continue to examine what Sinn Fein and the IRA said and did, to decide whether he could maintain his "working assumption" that the ceasefire is permanent. The Government intended to hold exploratory talks before Christmas. He added: "We are watching to see how their behaviour continues. In time we shall see whether we are able to proceed."

Security sources in Northern Ireland have said that IRA terrorists have been continuing to gather information on potential targets in the security forces and mounting dummy attacks. One source said: "The IRA have not disbanded their active service units. They still retain their capability to go back to terrorism at a moment's notice."

Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist security spokesman, said: "There has been a considerable amount of targeting going on, with dummy runs and so on. The IRA are just keeping their people operationally intact until they decide they want to exert more pressure on the Government."

Mr Maginnis said he feared that the IRA would decide whether to continue its ceasefire in the spring after the exploratory talks had begun: "There is still a considerable danger. But every day that goes by without violence is a bonus."

When the IRA declared a "complete cessation of military operations" at the end of August, the terrorists pointedly did not announce that they were disbanding. Leading members of Sinn Fein, such as Martin McGuinness, have refused to describe the truce as permanent, fuelling fears that the IRA might resume its campaign if it fails to win concessions.

Mr McGuinness will also be acutely aware that many people within the IRA oppose the ceasefire. It is understood that the IRA Army Council voted six to two in favour of the truce, with dissidents in some rural areas.

The Irish government fears that scepticism could grow among republicans if Britain fails to make more concessions to Sinn Fein. John Major's reluctance to accept all-Ireland bodies with executive powers is angering Dublin, which believes that such proposals would bolster republicans who back the peace process.

MICHAEL POWELL



Hedley Pavett, consultant architect to English Heritage, examines a mosaic decorating the Albert Memorial

Facelift for Albert Memorial to cost £14m

By John Young

WORK began yesterday on the restoration of one of London's most famous monuments, the Albert Memorial in Kensington Gardens. It is expected to cost £14 million and will not be completed until the end of the century.

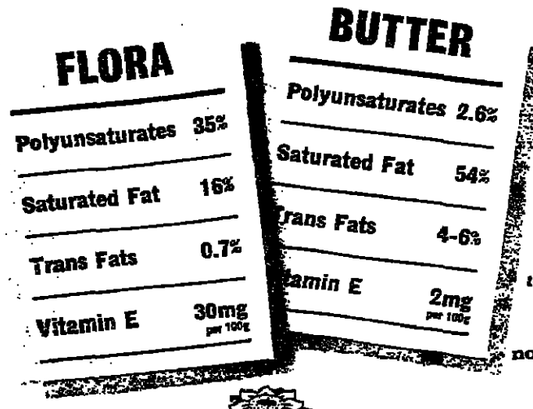
Prince Albert died from glandular fever in 1861 aged 42. A month later William Cubitt, the Lord Mayor, called a public meeting to invite contributions for "a monumental and national memorial". The memorial — a Gothic Revival masterpiece 175ft high with 175 figures — was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and completed in 1872.

In 1985 a full survey was ordered which showed that corrosion and damage from the elements was far worse than had been supposed. Since 1988 the memorial has been hidden by scaffolding and it was not until July this year that English Heritage was given responsibility for the restoration.

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KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Sicilian controversy

The Russian grandmaster Valery Salov has won first prize in the Sicilian Defence thematic tournament in Buenos Aires. Salov finished narrowly ahead of the Indian grandmaster Viswanathan Anand, who came close to the lead by defeating the Fide champion Anatoly Karpov. After the game a dispute broke out between Karpov and Anand as to the viability of Karpov's new opening system in the Sicilian Defence. Karpov said: "My ninth move is a new idea and I refuse to believe it is bad simply because of the result of the game."

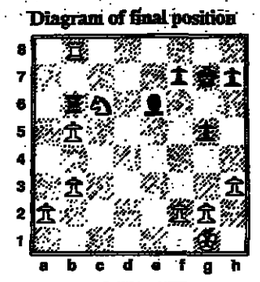
Anand said: "Karpov is always saying that he has a good position when others believe that he is lost. As far as I am concerned I would be prepared to challenge Karpov to a 24-game match taking the situation after Black's ninth move as the starting position in every game. I would give him a three-point start and still win the match."

White: Viswanathan Anand
Black: Anatoly Karpov
Buenos Aires, October 1994

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	e6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nc6
5	Nc3	Qc7
6	Be2	a6
7	0-0	Nf6
8	Be3	Bb4
9	Na4	d5
10	Nxc5	bxc6
11	exd5	Nxd5
12	Bd4	c5
13	c3	cxd4
14	cxb4	e5
15	Bf3	Be6
16	Nc5	Qd6
17	Re1	Rb8
18	Bxd5	Qxd5
19	Nxa6	Rc8
20	Qa4+	Ke7
21	b5	Rc4
22	Qe5	Ra8
23	Qb6	Rd8
24	b3	Rcc8
25	Nb4	Qd8
26	Nc6+	Kf8
27	Rxe5	d3
28	Rd1	Ra8
29	h3	d2
30	Re2	Rdb8
31	Rexd2	Rxb6
32	Rxd6	g5
33	Rd8+	Rxd8
34	Rxd8+	Kg7
35	Rb8	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Winning Move, page 44

THE TIMES
Lottery Prize Draw
21,000 National Lottery tickets to be won

Tickets for the National Lottery go on sale on Monday November 14, and with a top prize of £2m expected when the first draw takes place on Saturday November 19, lottery fever is starting to grip the nation. *The Times*, in association with *The Sunday Times*, is offering readers an additional chance to become overnight millionaires with our great lottery tickets prize draw.

Week four of our competition offers you the chance to win up to 10,000 lottery tickets to be purchased on your behalf. Each has a one in 54 chance of winning a prize.

Our teams of ticket buyers will purchase 21,000 official lottery tickets on behalf of our winning readers with randomly generated numbers for entry into the November 19 prize draw.

Continuing this week, we are publishing the last of 24 tokens. Collect 20 tokens and you can enter our prize draw twice. Collect all 24 from *The Times* and the 16 tokens appearing in *The Sunday Times* and you can enter the draw four times.

FIRST PRIZE 10,000 £1 tickets, second prize 2,000 £1 tickets, third prize 1,000 £1 tickets
Ten fourth prizes of 100 £1 tickets, 100 fifth prizes of 20 £1 tickets, 500 runners-up prizes of 10 £1 tickets

HOW TO WIN

TO enter the prize draw, simply collect 10 lottery tokens from *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. The first token was printed in *The Times* on October 8 and further tokens are appearing each day this week in *The Times* and have appeared in *The Sunday Times*, giving you a total of 40 tokens and enabling you to make four individual entries in our 21,000 lottery tickets prize draw. When you have collected 10 tokens send them on the form below or save all 40 tokens and send them with the bonus entry form which will appear on November 5.

No purchase is necessary. Full terms and conditions will appear periodically in *The Times*.

THE TIMES LOTTERY TOKEN

Name .....
Address .....
.....
Postcode .....
Phone .....

Send completed form and tokens to: The Times/The Sunday Times Lottery Prize Draw, PO Box 2246, Colchester, Essex CO1 1QU.

Inspectors attack quality of vocational A-level exam

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

URGENT action to safeguard the credibility of new vocational qualifications is required within weeks, inspectors said yesterday.

In a heavily critical report, the Office for Standards in Education said the introduction of so-called vocational A-levels and GCSEs was being endangered by weaknesses in course design and slack assessment of students' work.

The warning comes as government advisers prepare to submit plans to accelerate the spread of General National Vocational Qualifications (GNVQ) as an alternative to GCSEs among pupils aged 14 to 16. Ministers want half of 18-year-olds to be studying the vocational equivalent of A levels by the end of the decade. They are relying on the new qualifications to give a high-status alternative to traditional academic examinations.

Timothy Boswell, minister for higher and further education, said last week that vocational courses should attract the same standard of student as those taking academic qualifications.

"To put it bluntly, we don't want GNVQs just for dumbos," he said. Proposals by the Schools Curriculum and Assessment Authority and the National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NVCQ) for a GNVQ curriculum for 14 to 16-year-olds have already been held up. Disputes over content and assessment are threatening plans for pilot examinations next September.

More than 93,000 students are taking vocational A levels in subjects ranging from art and design to manufacturing. Although there is an external examination, students accumulate most "units" by demonstrating competence in specific skills during the course.

Yesterday's report by the inspectors, based on visits to 170 secondary schools and interviews with employers, said that while students valued the new courses and their practical emphasis, rapid improvements were required to ensure "quality and rigour".

It said the rate of progress since a critical report last year had been "far too slow". The NCVQ and examination-awarding bodies needed to detail more clearly the knowledge students were expected to demonstrate, simplify the grading structure and introduce tougher external checks on standards.

A second report by the Further Education Funding Council underlined the inspectors' criticisms but suggested the problems of bringing vocational qualifications on stream in further education colleges were not so acute. It concluded that while GNVQs were increasingly popular, the speed of their introduction had "stretched" awarding bodies.

Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, said the difficulties went beyond "teething problems". "For the first time in schools we have the opportunity to introduce worthwhile vocational qualifications. If urgent action isn't taken their credibility will be undermined and that would be a tragedy," he said.

Parents wary of gay classes

SCHOOLS should teach children about sex but be wary of tackling homosexuality too early, according to a survey of parents published yesterday. The poll, for the Health Education Authority, found that a quarter of parents believed lessons on homosexuality should be given only to pupils aged 16 and over. Seven in ten said they would not withdraw children from sex education classes but one in eight said they might if they included "sexual preferences" or matters they considered "inappropriate".

JAMES MORGAN



Peter and Anthony Adorian, who have chosen to join the new producers' co-operative, keep an eye on their dairy herd in West Sussex

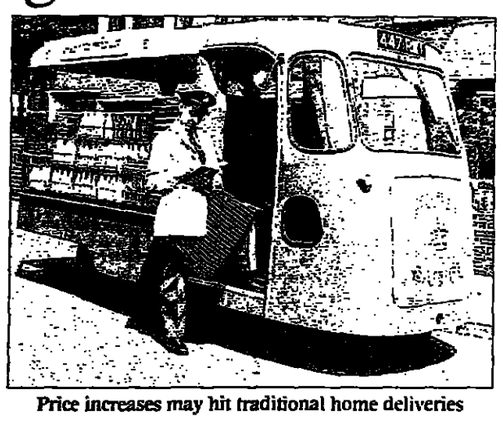
New regime forces doorstep price rise

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

MANY households will face rises in the price of their doorstep pint of milk from today when the biggest shake-up in the dairy industry in more than 60 years takes effect.

Two leading dairy companies will be charging up to 2p a pint more for home delivery, while supermarkets say they are reviewing the prices of all dairy products and may announce increases in the coming weeks.

Unigate, with 15 per cent of the market, will raise the average price of its doorstep pint from 38p to 40p. M. D. Foods, with 12 per cent of sales, will put its price up to 37p in the North and 39p in London and the South, an increase of 1p. Northern Foods, Britain's biggest dairy company with a 25 per cent market share, is already charging 40p for doorstep delivery in many areas. Its price will stay the same but will be reviewed after Christmas.



Price increases may hit traditional home deliveries

Safeway said: "A pint of milk is currently selling for 26p in our stores and we expect this to rise by a few pence initially. We fear this week's changes are going to make continental producers more competitive, leading to more imports."

Dairy companies blame the price rises on the scrapping of the 61-year-old Milk Marketing Board, which had the sole right to buy and sell raw milk. The board will be replaced today by Milk Marque, a voluntary producers' co-operative that 70 per cent of the 28,000 dairy farmers in England and Wales have agreed to join.

The Dairy Trade Federation claims the new co-operative has abused its dominant position to drive up prices by forcing dairy companies to bid against each other for supplies of milk, which are in permanent shortage because of European Union production quotas. It plans to complain to the Office of Fair Trading and to the European Commission in Brussels.

William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, said: "I see no justification for claims that Milk Marque's prices will lead to an increase of 2p or more. Indeed, for those who get their doorstep pint direct from the farm, the reform may cut the price because the farmer will no longer have to pay a sales levy to the Milk Marketing Board. I suspect that some dairy companies have been preparing price rises which are unrelated to the cost of milk."

Gavin Strang, shadow Agriculture Minister, said the doorstep price rises would force more people to buy from supermarkets, hastening the decline in home deliveries, which are already falling by 12 per cent a year and now account for only 50 per cent of milk sold. "Those who will suffer most are those who find it most difficult to get to the shops," he said. "They are also, by and large, the people who can least afford to pay more."

Stephen Locke, of the Consumers' Association, said: "Many people will find it pretty puzzling that you can liberalise a market and put up prices. The market can never be truly deregulated until quotas are abolished. But the new scheme makes the dairy industry more efficient, keeping prices lower in the long run."

Farmers welcome extra 2p a litre on milk sales

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

COMPLAINTS by dairy companies that they are being forced to pay extortionate prices for their milk by overpowerful producers evoke little sympathy at Gibbons Mill Farm, near Billingshurst in West Sussex.

Peter Adorian, who keeps 135 dairy cows on the 270-acre holding, says he is worth the extra 2p a litre (1.76 pints), a rise of nearly 10 per cent, that he will get for his milk from today, when the new marketing scheme starts. Each of his cows yields between 5,400 and 5,500 litres a year, so the new price should earn Mr Adorian and his son, Anthony, up to £110 more an animal, additional annual income of about £14,500.

"People will say this is a great bonanza but up to now our prices have been among the lowest in Europe," he said. "Market forces will prevail in the end. Dairy companies are free to import milk from the Continent if they can get it cheaper there."

The new prices will put British dairy farmers near the top of the European pay scale alongside their Danish counterparts, the only others who pass the European Union's so-called "Step 2" test of milk quality and hygiene.

Mr Adorian says dairies have not had to pay a proper rate for their raw material for years. "To some extent we have been subsidising their inefficiency. Now they are going to have to become more efficient and that will inevitably mean some factory closures."

More than two thirds of the 28,000 dairy farmers in England and Wales have chosen to join Milk Marque, the new voluntary producers' co-operative which today replaces the Milk Marketing Board.

Mr Adorian said: "Far from being greedy, most of us ignored even higher prices offered by dairy companies as an inducement to sell our milk direct to them. We joined Milk Marque because we did not want to be at the mercy of companies whose main aim is to maximise profits for their shareholders."

Press watchdog may use emergency powers to consider ethics of bogus Commons fax

PCC investigation looms for editor of The Guardian

BY ANDREW PIERCE AND EMMA WILKINS

LEADERS of the Press Complaints Commission may be forced to use emergency powers to investigate the subterfuge methods employed by *The Guardian* to secure Jonathan Aitken's Ritz hotel bill.

So far no official complaint has been lodged with the self-regulatory body about *The Guardian* obtaining a copy of the receipt by using House of Commons notepaper to forge a letter from the Cabinet minister.

But if no complaint is forthcoming the Commission will use powers it adopted in the New Year to launch its own investigation. Many senior newspaper editors fear that the use of Commons notepaper was a damaging mistake and could rebound on the press by leading to fresh demands for the Government to impose regulation on the industry.

A senior figure on the commission said yesterday: "This is a big one. People are very twitchy. If no complaint comes in we would almost certainly have to have our own investigation." Peter Preston, the editor of *The Guardian*, whose name has appeared on many of the paper's cash-for-questions stories, is a member of the commission.

Mr Preston sanctioned the use of House of Commons notepaper to obtain a copy of Mr Aitken's bill from the Ritz Hotel in Paris. The letter, which asked for a copy of the bill, purported to be from Jeremy Wright, private secretary to Mr Aitken at the Ministry of Defence.

The telephone numbers and fax on the paper were Mr Preston's. He defended the method as a device by which he could protect the newspaper's source, and claimed that no one was misled.

The directors of *The Guardian* and senior journalists pledged total support for Mr Preston yesterday. Despite the furore his future in the editor's chair is not in any doubt. Executives on the newspaper believe the controversy over the Commons notepaper has been used by Tory MPs to divert attention from the problems of Mr Aitken.

Hugo Young, chairman of the trustees of *The Guardian*, who is a columnist on the newspaper, said: "The trust never interferes with what the editor does. That is the whole point of being in a trust."

Tory MPs sympathetic to Mr Aitken will be meeting today to decide whether to lodge an official complaint. Officials in Mr Aitken's Thanet South constituency party are also considering a complaint.

The commission's code of practice states: "Subterfuge can be justifed only in the public interest and only when material cannot be obtained by other means." One member of the commission said: "We have Peter Preston, a leading member of the commission, in the dock. It is not good."

But there was staunch support for the fax ploy from some of the newspaper's most illustrious journalists. Ian Aitken, its former political columnist, said: "This is just a meaningless diversion away from the real issue of why it took Jonathan Aitken so long to pay his hotel bill and why it took him so long to give an explanation.

"I suppose it has given people who want tougher legislation a loaded gun. But last week has been a good one for *The Guardian* and for its editor Peter Preston. They have done nothing wrong. I think it was the right thing to do. It was and is in the public interest."

Peter Cole, a deputy editor of *The Guardian* for ten years until 1988, said that on balance the decision to use the fax had been the right one. "Ideally, one wouldn't do it. But it is the story and the allegations which count."

Woodrow Wyatt, page 18
Leading article, page 19

ROBIN MAYER



Peter Preston outside the London offices of The Guardian, where he has been editor for the past 19 years

Leaks and informants provide a regular source of trouble

BY EMMA WILKINS AND ANDREW PIERCE

THE latest allegations of deception are among the most serious to be levelled at Peter Preston during his 19 years as editor of *The Guardian*.

Despite calls for his resignation and widespread unease at his use of a forged letter in pursuit of a story, Mr Preston, 56, looks unlikely to surrender his position as Britain's longest serving national newspaper editor.

His public comments so far have been in vigorous defence of his newspaper's 15-month investigation into allegations that Jonathan Aitken's bill at the Hôtel Ritz in Paris was paid by a Saudi Arabian businessman.

The use of House of Commons notepaper for a letter purporting to be from Mr Aitken's office and "signed" by his private secretary, was no deception, Mr Preston has said. It was, he claims, merely a device by which the newspaper could obtain a copy of the bill without exposing its source.

It was not ever thus. Mr Preston's darkest hour at *The Guardian* came in 1983 when Sarah Tisdall, a Foreign Office clerk, anonymously sent the paper documents revealing when Cruise missiles would arrive at Greenham Common and the steps that would be taken to quell any subsequent protest.

Under pressure from the Government and the courts, the newspaper effectively named its source. Sarah Tisdall was charged under Section two of the Offical Secrets Act and sentenced to six months imprisonment in March 1984. She served four months in Holloway before her release. *The Guardian* was widely accused of betrayal.

Mr Preston, who was censured in a Commons motion put down by a Labour MP for naming his source, said later: "The whole Tisdall muck-up was awful."

He survived calls for his resignation with the determination which characterised a childhood battle against polio. His father, a wholesale greengrocer from Leicestershire, died in the polio outbreak, which condemned the 10-year-old Preston to an iron lung in hospital for 18 months.

Despite falling behind with academic work, he struggled through grammar school to win a place at St John's College, Oxford. He became editor of *Cherwell* and dabbled in liberal politics at university before joining the *Daily Post* in Liverpool and later *The Guardian*, where he succeeded Alastair Hetherington as editor in 1975.

He has been married for more than 30 years and has four children.

An early attempt at journalism resulted in him being sacked as a television reviewer for Leicester Magic Circle's monthly magazine. "I was too beastly about the other magicians," he said.

Since 1992, Mr Preston has been a member of the Press Complaints Commission, which has proposed that national newspaper editors should have the industry's code of practice written into their contracts of employment.

Any editor who breaches the code of practice could be liable for disciplinary action and dismissal.

Civil servant angry at use of his name

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR civil servant at the Ministry of Defence whose signature was faked on a fax to the Ritz in Paris reacted angrily yesterday over the use of his name in the "subterfuge" deployed by *The Guardian* to acquire a copy of Jonathan Aitken's bill for his staying at the hotel last year.

The bogus fax sent by *The Guardian* on House of Commons notepaper, requesting a copy of Mr Aitken's bill, was signed, allegedly on the minister's behalf, by Jeremy Wright who was his private secretary. At the time the fax was sent to Paris, Mr Aitken was Minister for Defence Procurement. Mr Wright is now private secretary to Roger Freeman who was appointed Minister for Defence Procurement after Mr Aitken was promoted to Chief Secretary to the Treasury in the last cabinet reshuffle.

Contacted at Mr Freeman's private office, Mr Wright declined to comment but later, speaking through the MoD's press office, He said: "I didn't sign the fax and I had no part in its creation."

A ministry source said: "He was absolutely not involved in sending this fax to the Ritz last November but he's not going to pursue it further."

Aitken's wife 'did not pay hotel bill'

BY STAFF REPORTERS

THE bill for Jonathan *Aitken's* disputed stay at the Paris Ritz was not paid by his wife — as he has claimed — Mohammed Al-Fayed said yesterday.

In a move timed to cause maximum embarrassment to the minister, Mr Al-Fayed, the hotel's owner, insisted that the woman who paid half the bill in cash was the secretary of Said Mohammed Ayas, a wealthy Arab friend of Mr *Aitken*.

The Chief Secretary to the Treasury has said all along that his wife Lolicia had paid the bill in cash some hours after he had left Paris. The account was in the name of Mr Ayas. Only half the bill was paid and Mr Aitken disclosed at the end of last week he had paid the other half earlier this year when he realised that the hotel had made a clerical error.

In a letter to Mr Aitken the hotel management confirmed that a brunette woman, of European aspect, speaking French, had paid half the bill in cash. Mr Aitken said in correspondence to Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, that that matched the description of his wife. In most photographs Mrs Aitken's hair is blond.

Mr Al-Fayed said yesterday that he had decided to make further checks with the hotel and that the cashier's clear recollection was that the brunette lady in question was a member of Mr Ayas's staff.



Lolicia Aitken: husband said she paid bill

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Row over Labour's new whips settled

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR completed his front-bench line-up last night by appointing eight of the 1992 Commons intake to the Labour whips' office.

Days of negotiations between the whips and the leadership office held up the appointments, due to be announced last Wednesday. As expected, some of the brightest new MPs have been appointed as whips: Peter Mandelson, Geoff Hoon, Tessa Jowell, Barbara Roche, Estelle Morris and Stephen Byers.

Eric Clarke, 61, former leader of the Scottish region of the National Union of Mineworkers and George Mudie, also a former union official, were appointed after concern that too many "modernisers" were invading the whips' office.

Most of the whips will get regional and/or departmental briefs to be decided by Derek Foster, the chief whip. Mr Mandelson, one of Mr Blair's closest advisers is expected to have a key role in liaising between Mr Foster and John Prescott, the deputy leader.

Mr Blair ran into trouble with senior whips last week by making clear that high-flyers would in future have to serve in the whips' office before gaining promotion to the front bench, in the same way as the Tories.

Senior whips were furious that the leader appeared to be suggesting that those already in the whips' office would be sidelined with no prospect of promotion. Several Labour MPs thought the appointments had bene mishandled and that the party leadership had failed to keep those involved fully informed.

Some of the 1992 intake were in turn concerned that they would not be given proper jobs in the whips' office.

Four whips have been reappointed: John Cummings, Jim Dowd, Jon Owen Jones and Dennis Turner.

Mr Blair is determined to ensure that Labour MPs exploit every opportunity to embarrass the Government.

Labour urges Heseltine to admit PO sell-off defeat

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR called upon Michael Heseltine yesterday to admit defeat in his battle to win Tory backing for a sell-off of the Royal Mail.

Brian Wilson, a shadow trade and industry spokesman, intervened after the disclosure by *The Times* that the Government is on the brink of abandoning the £1-billion-plus privatisation in the face of implacable opposition from a group of Tory MPs. He said: "The Tories have failed utterly to convince public opinion that Post Office fragmentation or privatisation are consistent with the maintenance of a universal service. Mr Heseltine should admit defeat."

But last night the President of the Board of Trade was planning an eleventh-hour attempt to rescue his plan to sell 51 per cent of the Royal Mail in a pre-election public flotation. One of his friends said: "I have not heard the fat lady singing."

It is understood that Mr Heseltine will meet some of the rebels, thought to total about 15, today to try to win them over. Most of the rebels are on the centre-left of the party and normally in tune with Mr Heseltine's political thinking. There were suggestions that he might appeal to them as much on grounds of personal loyalty as on the merits of his case. The message from the whips, however, was that the arithmetic was still against him.

Right-wing ministers were backing Mr Heseltine, saying that it was essential that the Post Office was given the freedom of the marketplace and allowed to compete against foreign rivals. They said that the political pain had already been undergone and that if the Government pulled back it would give Labour the opportunity of running a scare story at the next election about a hidden agenda to sell-off the Royal Mail and close down rural post offices.

Mr Heseltine's opponents remained unimpressed last night. Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East and normally one of his acolytes, said in an interview with BBC radio: "I would expect not to see privatisation in the form Mr Heseltine may have hinted at earlier this year, and I think that's a very good thing. The essence is people want the Post Office to stay in the public sector altogether."

Another rebel said: "If the Government have got any sense, they would drop the idea of anything over a 49 per cent sell-off. If they do that it will be all right but if they go ahead they will be in difficulties. I would not have thought they will take a gamble in current circumstances."



Heseltine: trying to rescue his plans

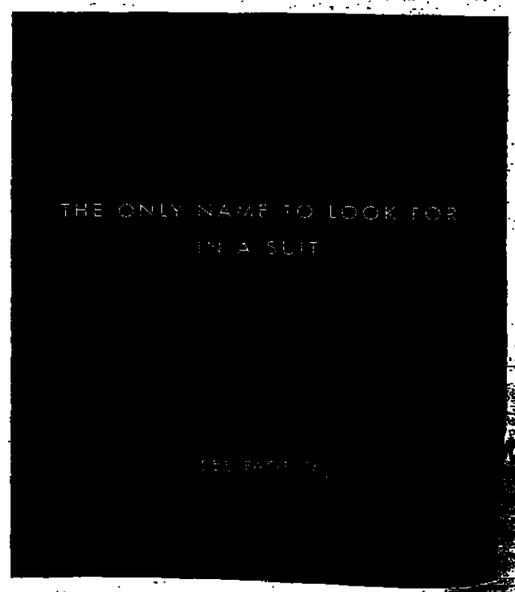
Speaker to keep an eye on Big Ben

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

BETTY Boothroyd, the Commons Speaker, pledged yesterday to monitor reports that Big Ben had started to lean. "As the one person who lives under Big Ben, I shall be the first to see that everything is in order in that area," she told MPs today, to laughter from all sides of the House.

The Speaker's official residence at the north end of the Palace of Westminster is right alongside the clock tower, overlooking the River Thames and Westminster Bridge.

Tunnelling work on the £1.9 billion Jubilee Line Extension project is said to be threatening the foundations of the clock tower.



هكذا من الاعلى

Commons in uproar as Government refuses to question 'cash' MPs in public

Tories defy calls to back down over private hearings

BY ALICE THOMSON ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND JONATHAN PRYNN

THE Government raised the stakes in the Commons cash-for-questions controversy last night, defiantly rejecting growing pressure to hold the inquiry in public.

On the eve of the start of the Commons investigation, Tony Newton, the leader of the Commons, insisted that the Government would not back down from its view that the hearings should be held behind closed doors.

Mr Newton defied calls for a compromise from some senior Tory MPs, including Sir Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, and dismissed as "unacceptable" Labour's demands for part of the inquiry to be held in public.

The combative stance taken by Mr Newton increased the likelihood of further disruption to today's opening hearing of the Commons Privileges Committee, which is investigating claims that two Tory MPs, Graham Riddick and Graham Tredinnick, were prepared to accept £1,000 to table Commons questions. Seven Labour MPs have boycotted the committee since it decided to hold hearings in private.

The Government's tough line came in the face of cross-party appeals for a change of

> "What is clear is that all of us, and the whole of Parliament, are to some extent on trial"

decision over the inquiry. Mr Newton, the committee's chairman, dismissed Labour claims that a private investigation would amount to a cover-up. He said all the evidence would be published in full, with the report and its recommendations.

John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, opened a Labour-initiated debate by telling the Commons that MPs would jeopardise the standing of Parliament if they failed to respond to public demands for open hearings. "We must restore the esteem of Parliament, and this is the first step. It is not, as has been suggested, an invitation to peddle any old allegation in public."

At the heart of the debate, he said, was whether the public "trust MPs to investigate other MPs, free from party political considerations. And I fear that, in the current climate, they do not. What is clear from recent events is that all of us, and the whole of Parliament, are to some extent on trial".

The debate was about whether the public would be satisfied "with private inquiries into very public allegations". He said: "It would be absolutely absurd to continue to read in the press, hear on the radio, see on the television and hear in the Chamber of this House allegations about

> "The Press Complaints Commission don't sit in public. I can't see, if they don't, why we should"

MPs, but not be allowed to see, hear or read about the examination of these allegations in the Privileges Committee."

Mr Newton fought back by telling MPs that public hearings might constrain committee members from asking questions and he warned that witnesses might use parliamentary privilege "to make any allegation, however unfounded, against anyone they chose to name".

He rejected the halfway house of part-public, part-private hearings, as suggested by the Labour motion. "There is no evidence that such an arrangement could be made to work," he told the House.

It would not be fair to hear some witnesses in private and some in public, and he doubted the committee could judge in advance whether issues were going to arise that should be heard privately.

Witnesses did not have legal representation and the chairman did not have a judge's power to rule questions out of order. Defendants could be subject to questioning from up to 17 people, and would have no prior notice of questions which, asked under parliamentary privilege, could be highly damaging to them.

It was no more acceptable for the Opposition to seek to determine how such a committee should go about its work than it would be thought for ministers or the Government to do so. "If we are to go down this path, I believe we put at risk exactly those attributes of our select committees which the House itself most values and which is the basis of their public reputation," he said.

Tony Benn, MP for Chesterfield and a senior member of the Privileges Committee, caused uproar on the Tory benches when he declared that he would publish his own personal report of the proceedings of the committee "whatever the decision of the House".

He said he was no longer prepared to accept the traditional practice of the committee. "My first responsibility is to those who have elected me to Parliament, who are entitled to know what is being done in their name and in my judgment that duty must take precedence over any conventions of the House."

He was followed by Sir Edward Heath, who said that while he would vote for the Government's amendment, the falling reputation of Parliament compelled him to support hearing evidence to the committee in public. "It is essential that this House re-establishes itself in the higher standing of the public."

The MPs facing the allegations could be protected by the presence of the Attorney General, who could challenge any damaging statements from witnesses the moment they said made them, Sir Edward said. They could also have legal representation.

However, Sir Edward could not agree with Mr Benn that the deliberations as well as the witness sessions of the committee should be held in public. As usual Mr Benn had "gone a bridge too far". Sir Edward said anyone who had sat on committees knew there was a point when important issues had to be discussed informally away from the public gaze.

He was also concerned about the "inordinate length" it had taken for the investigation into the allegations to start.

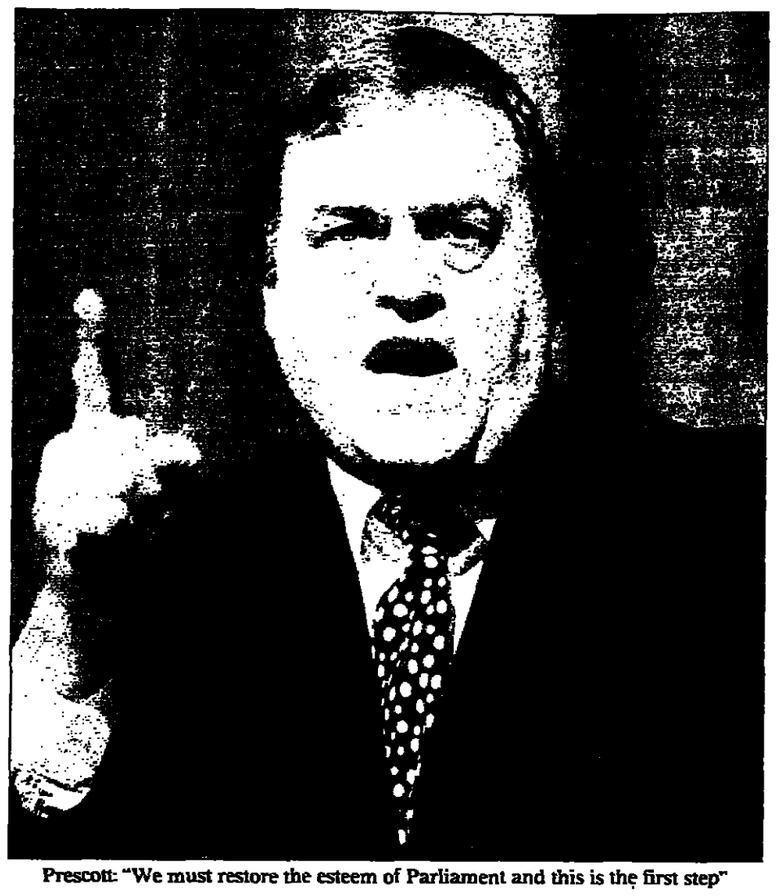
David Alton, the Liberal Democrat MP on the Privileges Committee, said "public confidence in our institutions has reached dangerous new depths". He said that the cash-for-questions inquiry should not only be held in public but be widened and deepened to include the allegations surrounding the resignation of two ministers in the last fortnight.

Alf Morris, one of the seven Labour committee members who boycotted the inquiry in protest at private hearings, told MPs of the "mounting public disquiet at the failure of this House to deal with malfeasance".

Dame Jill Knight, Tory MP for Edgbaston and a committee member, launched a scathing attack on the "wolves and hyenas of the fourth estate". She said that if the proceedings were allowed to dribble out through the media rather than through a final committee report, the witnesses would not get a fair trial.

"We should not judge in fits and starts. There will be daily mud slinging, Rupert Murdoch bashing and Jeremy Paxman ranting. "There is no conscience whatsoever in the minds of editors and producers who never mind what the facts are, they just do it. They lie, cheat and distort to get a story."

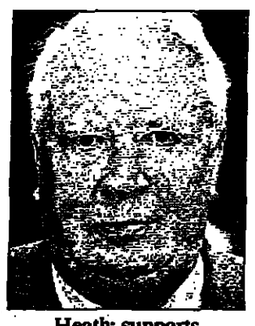
Sir David Mitchell, Tory MP for Hampshire NW and a committee member said he would still not vote for public hearings. "The Press Complaints Commission don't sit in public, and I can't see, if they don't, why we should."



Prescott: "We must restore the esteem of Parliament and this is the first step"



Alton: "confidence has reached new depths"



Heath: supports public hearings



Newton: refused to back down

Leading article, page 19

Benn makes life difficult for cosy traditionalists

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Tony Benn challenged the Westminster club yesterday with a defiance that took us back 150 to 200 years to the days of John Wilkes, William Cobbett and Thomas Hansard and the original battles to report the proceedings of Parliament. He did not win his point last night that the evidence and deliberations of committees should be in public. But his threat to issue his own report of the proceedings of the privileges committee, whatever its own decision, starkly dramatised the issue, as he has so often done before. He has made it much harder for the defenders of the cosy traditions of the Commons.

There is nothing that Mr Benn relishes more than debate about constitutional issues. Even those who fiercely dispute his role within the Labour Party can recognise his broader contribution. Often defying the conventional wisdom, he has made more impact in changing constitutional procedures than anyone else alive, from his epic struggle to renounce his peerage onwards.

His starting point yesterday was the definition of privilege and the public's right to know what its representatives do on its behalf. He argued that privilege applied not to the House itself, but to voters themselves looking to members to do their job without improper interference. He referred to the great battles of the late 18th and early 19th centuries to allow public reporting of Parliament. There were echoes yesterday of the 1738 debate on publication of proceedings when Sir Robert Walpole argued that it would be impossible to prevent misrepresentation if any report of debates was permitted. The same view has echoed down the ages with objections to press reports, radio and television. Mr Benn argued that the secrecy of committee proceedings raised exactly the same questions.

The Government view is that the privileges committee is different from other committees since it considers specific allegations, against MPs and often the media, but it does not operate as a court of law with legal representation and cross-examination of witnesses. This point can be overdone since a committee including the Attorney General should be capable of ensuring natural justice. Tony Newton, leader of the Commons, made rather a meal of Labour's proposal for a half-way house whereby the committee should mainly sit in public, but could move to private if necessary. That already happens with other select committees and is the obvious solution.

Mr Benn's sting was that the deliberations of the committees, as well as their evidence, should be in public. This was a "bridge too far" for Sir Edward Heath, his fellow veteran of 1950-51.

His threat to disregard current restrictions, whatever is decided, and to publish reports of proceedings if he returns to attend future meetings of the committee challenges all the conventions of the House. If it happened, there would no doubt be a tremendous row with grandiose arguments about contempt. I doubt if Mr Benn will persuade MPs to allow deliberative sessions to be in public, but the resulting argument would make it harder to defend evidence taking sessions in private.

Watching and listening to MPs yesterday showed exactly why Parliament needs to act to restore public confidence. The pomposity and self-regard were extraordinary after recent events. As John Prescott said, the debate was about MPs regulating themselves. The old consensus has broken down. The Commons will have to do much better if MPs want to preserve self-regulation.

PETER RIDDELL

THE TIMES DILLONS FORUM

Sir John Harvey-Jones



IN business, people are the most powerful resource we have, but still the most underexploited. We underestimate their intelligence and their initiative and we fail to get the best out of them for business. So argues John Harvey-Jones, one of Britain's best-known and most admired businessmen, in his new book *All Together Now*.

John Harvey-Jones will put forward the blueprint for people-management that he believes could put the UK at the forefront of world business at this Times/Dillons Forum. The forum will take place in the Logan Hall, Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1 on Wednesday November 9 at 7.30 pm. John Harvey-Jones will be signing copies of his new book after the event.

Tickets to this event, priced at £10 (concessions £7.50), are available by calling Dillons on 071 915 6613 or by completing and posting the form below.

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Opening lead ♠10

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

South was sensible to rebid his diamonds, rather than supporting clubs on four small ones. With no suit agreed, North's 4NT was natural and discouraging.

South wins the opening lead with the king of spades (the ace would have been slightly more deceptive) and plays the ace, king and jack of diamonds. West wins the third round of diamonds with the queen and plays the jack of hearts to East's ace and South's king. How should East defend?

Answer: At first sight returning a club looks difficult to find. But it really is quite simple. It is nothing to do with how West played his diamond pips, or a hunch about his failure to lead clubs. The reasoning requires use of the fundamental principle of good card play: count the tricks. Here East can tell that South has four tricks in spades, as he is marked with the ace; he has one in hearts (the now-established queen); presumably he has at least five in diamonds (otherwise West will have another trump trick and it won't matter what East does); and the ace of clubs makes eleven tricks.

So to beat the contract the defence must take a trick NOW, and the only possible chance is to find East with a club void.

☐ The Lederer Memorial Trophy, played at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club over the weekend, had perhaps its strongest-ever field. It was won by the Great Britain team, consisting of J. Armstrong, G. Kirby, D. Price and P. Czerniewski. Second was the London team (G. Liggins, A. Dyson, S. Lodge and P. Crouch).

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Rostenkowski treads easy path

Blue-collars' big hero shrugs off troubles

FROM IAN BRODIE IN CHICAGO

GUILTY or not, Dan Rostenkowski remains a law unto himself.

The veteran Chicago Democrat, formerly a close ally of President Clinton, is running for re-election after 36 years in Congress where he rose to great power. A blunt, beefy figure, he is a throwback to the forbidding regime of the late Mayor, Richard "Boss" Daley, under whose patronage he first went to Washington.

This race is different from all the others. Mr Rostenkowski is no longer the force he was. He now labours under the cloud of 17 criminal charges alleging fraud and embezzlement of $700,000 (£435,000) in public funds. Insisting on his innocence, he said: "I will wash away the mud that has been splattered on my reputation."

It might be imagined that he would campaign flat-out to reassure voters of his continued fitness to serve. This would be to misjudge the abiding power of the Democratic Party machine in Chicago and the enduring legend of "Rosty". In fact, he is campaigning hardly at all. When the local papers started to remark on his inaction, he installed an answering machine in somebody else's office to handle calls. Last week it was out of order.

Mr Rostenkowski has made one appearance, miles outside his constituency. His speech was closed to the press. Campaign funds of close to $400,000 have rolled in from lobbyists and backers, but he has spent virtually nothing. Pressed about his "stealth" campaign, he said: "Maybe we'll do a phone bank and try to get to a couple of wards, shake some hands."

There are three reasons for Mr Rostenkowski's easygoing approach: his Polish heritage, his record of bringing home the bacon and the Democratic machine's ability to get out the vote. Mr Rostenkowski remains confident of solid support among thousands of Polish-Americans in the gritty, blue-collar suburbs of his fiefdom on Chicago's North Side. He spends most weekends among them in the house built by his grandfather.

Before the indictment, Mr Rostenkowski was chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, a junction box controlling how taxes are raised and spent. With the authority to dole out federal money, he made sure that billions of dollars found their way to Chicago. He believes his tally of past favours still works to his advantage.

The widespread belief that Mr Rostenkowski will be a shoo-in is not accepted by the man running against him. Michael Flanagan, 31, an affable Republican lawyer, has been canvassing hard. He said: "People here will put up with a lot, but I get a sense they feel Rosty has finally gone too far."



Dan Rostenkowski, facing embezzlement charges, is running an easygoing campaign: "maybe we will try to get to a couple of wards, shake some hands"

Sleeping bag clue 'points to Sydney backpack killer'

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

A MAP showing the roads leading into the forest where seven young backpackers were murdered, a sleeping bag possibly owned by a German victim, and parts of a rifle, said to have been one of the murder weapons, were found in the home of Ivan Milat, a court near Sydney was told yesterday.

Detective Andrew Grosse, a police forensic investigator, told the Campbelltown court that parts of a .22 Ruger rifle identical to that which killed Caroline Clarke, a British backpacker, had been hidden in a wall cavity at the home of Mr Milat, an Australian roadworker. Police also found a trigger assembly, bolt assembly and two ammunition magazines.

Mr Milat, 49, is charged with the murder of the seven backpackers, Miss Clarke, 21, of Slaley, Northumberland, Joanne Walters, 22, of Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan; Australians James Gibson and Deborah Everist, both 19; and Germans Anje Habschied, 20, Gabor Neugebauer, 21, and Simone Schmidl, 21.

He is also charged with the attempted murder of an unidentified British tourist, named only as Victim A, who was attacked near the Belanglo state forest in the New South Wales Southern Highlands in January 1990, as well as a number of firearms offences. He is expected to plead not guilty.

Inspector Bruce Couch said police had found more than a tonne of ammunition in a room under the home of Mr Milat's brother, Walter, at Hilltop, near the Belanglo forest. Metal detectors and dogs trained to trace bodies had been used in forest searches, he added. Mr Grosse said that in addition to the forest map, foreign currency belonging to some of those who had been killed had been found in Mr Milat's bedroom.

Ian Lloyd, prosecuting, had said in his opening statement that Schmidl's parents would give evidence that a sleeping bag found in another bedroom was identical to one owned by their daughter at the time she disappeared. The prosecution would show that it was of a brand never offered for sale in Australia.

An airline ticket belonging to Neugebauer and his girlfriend, Habschied, had been found near their remains in the forest. Neugebauer had been shot once in the chest and four times in the head.

Michael Price, the chief magistrate, will visit the scene of the murders later this week. Committal proceedings are expected to continue for at least seven weeks.



An artist's impression of accused Ivan Milat

Seoul seeks Peking pressure on North

BY JAMES PRINGLE

PRESIDENT Kim Young Sam of South Korea has asked Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, to help to ensure that North Korea dismantles its suspected nuclear weapons programme. Peking is the last ally of the reclusive Pyongyang regime after the collapse of communism in Europe.

The Chinese and South Korean leaders, who held talks in Seoul yesterday, agreed that Pyongyang's commitment to dismantle its programme would help to improve the strained relations between the two Koreas.

The visit of Mr Li is painful for North Korea, which saw the establishment of ties between Peking and Seoul as a betrayal by their former allies in the Korean War. The North is in a delicate political transition after the death three months ago of President Kim Il Sung, who has been replaced by his son, Kim Jong Il.

China and South Korea agreed that inter-Korean talks should resume as soon as possible, and that only the two Koreas could resolve their differences.

In the recent agreement reached in Geneva, America said it would provide Pyongyang with light-water reactors to replace graphite reactors that produce plutonium, the key element in making nuclear arms. Seoul wants to ensure there is no cheating.

Mr Li arrived in South Korea with 150 officials and businessmen for a five-day visit aimed partly at encouraging booming trade between the two countries.

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The Invitation to Apply specifies terms and conditions relating to the provision of the Channel 5 service and the information required by the Commission as part of an application. Further details are set out in supplementary documents, including details of the potential coverage using terrestrial transmission. The Invitation to Apply, together with a draft licence, is available from the ITC. Potential applicants and others who may wish to be added to a list for the circulation of any subsequent information should write to the Secretary to the Independent Television Commission, 33 Foley Street, London W1P 7LB.

Applications should reach the ITC not later than noon on Tuesday 2 May 1995.

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Talk

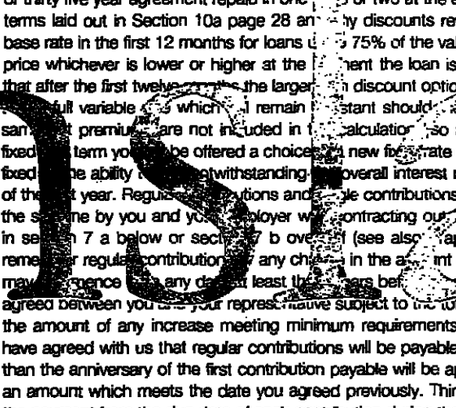
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France to put Iran in dock at Bakhtiar death trial

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

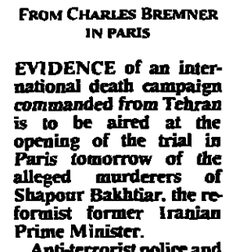
EVIDENCE of an international death campaign commanded from Tehran is to be aired at the opening of the trial in Paris tomorrow of the alleged murderers of Shapour Bakhtiar, the reformist former Iranian Prime Minister.

Anti-terrorist police and security personnel in Paris are on alert after public and diplomatic warnings by the Iranians that they will not take lightly the scrutiny of alleged operations against opponents of the Islamic regime.

Three Iranians, including a relative of President Rafsanjani, are accused of involvement in the death of Bakhtiar, found with his throat cut at his closely guarded home at Suresnes, near Paris, in August 1991.

Bakhtiar, who served for a little more than a month as the Shah's last Prime Minister, brought Ayatollah Khomeini back to Iran from exile in France.

Tehran has signalled that is outraged at the prosecution of Afi Zeynal Sarhadi, 28, the great-nephew of Mr Rafsanjani, who was an employee at the Iranian Embassy in Berne, and is alleged to have liased between Iranian agents and the assassins.



Bakhtiar: was found with his throat cut

Duke pays homage to Holocaust millions

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN YAD VASHEM, ISRAEL

DEEP-seated Israeli suspicions about the alleged pro-Arab sympathies of British royalty were allayed yesterday when the Duke of Edinburgh spoke about his boarding school experience of the evils of anti-Semitism and his mother's brave stand against Nazi persecution.

The Duke transformed the first royal visit to the Jewish state into a triumph by appearing at what he called "the world's most poignant memorial" — the Yad Vashem site erected on the outskirts of Jerusalem so that the fate of *the six million Holocaust* victims will never be forgotten.

He accepted a posthumous "righteous gentile" award on behalf of his mother, Princess Alice of Greece, who had risked death by saving three Jews from the Nazis in Athens *in the 1940s.*

The Duke then went to a hastily arranged meeting with Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and struck up an improbable rapport by exchanging memories of service training in Britain.

According to the *Jerusalem Post*, the Duke had earlier discussed with President Weizman the possibility of a full state visit with the Queen. *To date, all such invitations* have been rejected because of Britain's refusal to recognise Israel's claim to Jerusalem as its indivisible capital.

Such diplomatic niceties were forgotten in the raw emotion of yesterday's programme that started with the Duke paying his first visit to the grave of his mother; her remains were reinterred here from England in 1988, fulfilling her last wish. At his side was his older sister, Princess George of Hanover.

At a moving ceremony among grim reminders of the Holocaust and the bravery of those who tried to help Jews escape the concentration camps, the Duke and his sister planted a tree in their mother's *honour. Not far away was the* first such tree planted here in 1962 by Oskar Schindler, the German businessman whose work in saving *over 1,000 Jews* was immortalised in the film *Schindler's List.* The Duke wrote in the special memorial book a quote from Ecclesiastes: "God brings everything we do to judgment."

The Duke was visibly *moved when he was intro*duced to Michel Cohen, 80, who had flown in from Paris. *He was one of the three Greek* Jews, the others being his late mother and sister, who were concealed by the Duke's mother in the third-floor flat of her *Athens home under the noses* of the Nazis. Mr Cohen was too overcome to speak publicly. Earlier, he told Radio Israel: "But for the Princess, I would not be alive today."

The Duke told of his experience at the age of 12 at a *boarding school in southern* Germany in the 1930s, when he "had first-hand experience of the anti-Semitic frenzy in Germany in those days". Speaking to a mainly Jewish audience, he said: "It was the custom of the school to appoint a senior boy to look after the new arrivals. I was unaware of it at the time, but it so happened that our 'helper', as he was called, was of Jewish *origin. One night he was* overpowered in his bed and had all his hair cut off. Nothing could have given us a clearer indication of the meaning of prejudice and persecution." He added: "It so happened that I had played cricket for my school in England and I still had my cricket cap with me. I offered it to our helper and I was pleased to see that he wore it until his hair had time to grow."

☐ **Summit hope:** Mr Rabin, who on Sunday opened the meeting in Casablanca where Arabs and Israelis are exploring *regional economic ties*, predicted that it would open new opportunities for Israel in the Arab world. But Muslim extremists denounced the *summit as paving the way for* Israeli economic imperialism.



The Duke of Edinburgh and his sister, Princess George of Hanover, laying a wreath in the Hall of Remembrance at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial yesterday

Israel lacks envoys who speak language of Arab diplomacy

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN JERUSALEM

AS ISRAELI leaders bask in the attention paid to them by new friends at the Middle East economic summit in Casablanca, their Foreign Ministry is starting to grapple with a new problem: a shortage of diplomats who can *speak Arabic.*

Peace with its Arab neighbours will tax the resources of Israel's overstretched mandarinate. The foreign service has 800 staff required to serve in more than 100 countries. With the recent peace treaty with Jordan and the impending establishment of full diplomatic and consular relations, the search is on for suitable personnel for Israel's new Embassy in Amman.

Shimon Peres, the Foreign *Minister, is opening an Israe*li interests section in Rabat, the Moroccan capital, and with relations thawing rapidly with Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and the Gulf sultanates, Foreign Ministry sources revealed that it is not ideally prepared to execute its diplomatic offensive.

The possibility of recruiting civil administrators from the occupied territories and remoulding them quickly as diplomats has been mooted. *Israel is also considering* shutting missions in a number of friendly but marginal countries of Africa and Latin America in order to set up embassies in formerly hostile states.

British troops aid victims of Rwanda feuds

FROM SAM KILEY IN KIBEHO, SOUTHERN RWANDA

THE latest victim of the ill winds of tribalism which still blow through Rwanda arrived at the field surgical unit of 23 Parachute Field Ambulance in Kagemi. Her wrist had been slashed to the bone and her head fractured in three places by machete blows.

This, said Lieutenant-Colonel Nigel Corner, a surgeon, was a symbol of a growing tide of lawlessness, insurgency and revenge in the country's border areas.

In Cyanika, British paratroop engineers have had to purify water polluted by the bodies of 7,000 people in a mass grave. "It smells terrible, and now that the rains have come the topsoil is washing off, revealing rotting limbs, often with clothes still on," said Major Tom Ogilvy-Graham. "The hatred must have been colossal. If you have seen your wife and children have their throats cut, you hate very deeply."

However, the grisly environment has not discouraged the men, according to Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff. Visiting troops of the 550-strong British contingent which has served in Rwanda since August, Sir Peter said: "The guys here have seen some harrowing things but they really feel they have done something worthwhile." The mission could open the way for similar future operations under United Nations command, he added. "If the right situation occurs, I think we'll do it."

The victim on the theatre table in Kagemi was one of three people, two women and a man, injured in a night attack by avenging Tutsis armed with machetes, guns and grenades three miles from a British field hospital in Kibeho. The town, once a pilgrimage site for worshippers at a shrine to the Virgin Mary, where she is said to appear, is now a squalid tent-city of 72,000 refugees.

Four thousand Tutsis were slaughtered in Kibeho's Catholic church. They locked themselves inside the building, but for three days Hutus pickaxed their way through the walls. The remains of victims now poke through the grass in the cemetery outside. Reluctant to leave Kibeho for fear of revenge attacks, and intimidated by hardline leaders who ordered the mass killing of Tutsis, the Hutu displaced are under orders from the new Tutsi-dominated regime to return in the next few days to their abandoned farms to the east. Force may be used to persuade them.

But they are also in danger from militia leaders in Hutu refugee camps in Tanzania, Zaire and Burundi who want to keep the population out of Rwanda. This week ten Hutus died and 13 were injured by militiamen who slashed their victims with machetes in punishment for returning home to a region which borders Burundi and Zaire.

"There are definite signs that the *interahamwe* (Hutu militia responsible for much of the genocide) have launched a campaign of low-level insurgency in this area. In addition, the Rwandan Patriotic Army has been heavy-handed, and there are revenge attacks by both ethnic groups on one another," said Lieutenant-Colonel Alan Hawley, the commander of 23 Parachute Field Ambulance, a group numbering 250 men.



Sir Peter: future UN operations possible

In the past six weeks the soldiers, who have earned the *deep respect of aid workers*, have treated more than 100,000 in Kibeho. Most have been suffering from dysentery, diarrhoea and malaria. But there has been a recent rise in victims of violence.

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Santer's new team will shift Europe towards centre-left

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN LUXEMBOURG

THE first public appearance at the weekend of the next European Commission gave two clues to the character of the European Union's pivotal policy-making body: its five-year life may well be stormy and it has shifted towards the centre-left.

Sir Leon Brittan's defeat over the portfolio dealing with Eastern Europe was untypical of the arguments likely to divide the Commission. He was in contention with a right-of-centre colleague, Hans van den Broek of The Netherlands.

If Swedish and Norwegian voters take their countries into the EU before the end of the year, the new Commission will take office in January with 21 members. Twelve, including Emma Bonino from Italy's Radical Party, are broadly of the Left; nine belong to the right-of-centre and only three of those come from the continent's principal movement of the Right, Christian Democracy. Since Norway seems unlikely to join this autumn, the final balance should be 11-9.

Although a French Socialist, Jacques Delors, has been the Commission's President for ten years, the three Delors Commissions have been strong on technocrats and free-trade advocates. Votes in the Commission have only rarely divided on Right-Left lines what has often been a committee of technocrats. But the new Commission contains an unusual number of experienced political players. Two, the President, Jacques Santer, and the French Commissioner, Edith Cresson, are ex-Prime Ministers. All but a handful are ex-ministers.

"The thing to remember about this Commission is that Santer, a leading Christian Democrat, will have to worry a lot about the political equilibrium," one EU official said yesterday. "There are very few Christian Democrats on board in this one."

The shift towards experienced politicians reflects a change in the Commission's role. In the 1980s, commissioners spent most of their time making law. They will legislate less in the 1990s and devote more effort to hands-off regulation of the single market, deregulation of burdens on business, and designing telecommunication and transport infrastructure to create jobs. As Transport Commissioner, Neil Kinnock will play a large role in this.

The Commission will also plunge into the political battles before and during the 1996 conference to review the Maastricht treaty. The treaty boosted the Commission's powers a little but left national ministers in the driving seat. Mr Santer has appointed Marcelino Oreja, a Spanish commissioner and author of a proposed federal EU constitution, to prepare the Commission's case for greater powers in 1996. A Commission's drive and direction is determined more than anything else by its President's leadership. Commissioners propose directives which must be passed by national ministers and sometimes by the European Parliament as well. A mediocre Commission, or one paralysed by quarrels between its big barons, quickly slips from view. But M Delors's federalist convictions and the strength of his alliance with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, sailed his Commissions into controversial waters. Mr Santer is also a federalist and a friend of Herr Kohl, but whether he has fire in his belly remains to be seen.

One powerful axis which sets much of the agenda elsewhere in the EU appears oddly weak in the Santer Commission: the Franco-German partnership. Policy on information technology and research and development is awkwardly split between the anti-interventionist German Martin Bangemann and France's highly interventionist Mme Cresson. Herr Bangemann holds the key cards and is likely to have the upper hand. France's senior commissioner, the relatively little-known Yves-Thibault de Silguy holds the nominally powerful job of looking after economic and monetary union, but will have to compete for attention with Mr Santer and a German government which loudly insists that bureaucratic interference should not bend rules written into the EU treaty.

Geographical tensions may arise. Mediterranean countries are watching the arrival of northern, industrial, free-trading states with suspicion. Austria, Finland, Sweden and Norway have all appointed heavyweights to the Commission and two have landed powerful jobs.

Denmark's new Environment Commissioner, Ritt Bjerrgaard, who is telegenic, smart and highly articulate in several languages, may well turn out to be the star of the new Nordic bloc.

Luxembourg: Britain is hoping to clinch a decision to set up an Anglo-French air force unit with a permanent base staffed by aircrews, officers and technicians when John Major and President Mitterrand meet in Chartres on November 18. The unit would be for use in emergencies outside Nato territory. No details on its headquarters were available last night.



Sir Leon Brittan, with the President of the European Council, Klaus Kinkel, in Luxembourg yesterday where he said he would stay in his post

Cresson leads female assault on power

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

THE old guard of the European Commission may have been able to hang on to the leading foreign affairs portfolios, but on all other counts the Brussels body will be dominated by 13 newcomers, including five women, the largest female presence ever.

As a former Prime Minister of France, Edith Cresson is among the best known of the new commissioners, not least for her intemperate outburst during her hapless tenure in 1991 and 1992 when she claimed that all British men are homosexual. Despite her seniority and her age — at 60 she will be the second oldest commissioner — Mme Cresson will be in charge of a relatively minor portfolio, research and development, although this may suit her corporatist tendencies.

By contrast, her French colleague, Yves-Thibault de Silguy, who has been European affairs adviser to Edouard Balladur, the French Prime Minister, will hold the single most powerful job among the newcomers. He will be in charge of economic affairs, and thus economic and monetary union, one of the politically most sensitive issue during the five-year term of the next Commission.

Another newcomer to watch is Emma Bonino, who was nominated by Silvio Berlusconi, the Italian Prime Minister, only last Friday, the day before the fateful meeting at Senningen Castle in Luxembourg. She has caused a minor skirmish inside the Commission with her official curriculum vitae. Under normal circumstances, the CV of a European commissioner elicits about as much excitement as a European Union directive on fish. Not so Signora Bonino's: Commission officials were mildly shocked when they received the paper, which listed in the first line under political activities "Founder of the Information Centre for Sterilisation and Abortion". The second entry read "Promoter of the campaign for an anti-nuclear referendum."

Embarrassed officials are reported to have asked her to drop at least the first line, presumably on the ground that it may offend her Christian Democratic colleagues. She declined. Signora Bonino will take over as Consumer Affairs Commissioner, a portfolio that has been neglected so far but which, if handled correctly, could help her to gain much popularity among Europe's consumers.

The most telegenic of the commissioners is Ritt Bjerregaard, an immensely popular Danish politician, who recently has been vice-president of the parliamentary assembly of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, and Socialist International Women. A former Cabinet minister, Mrs Bjerregaard will be in charge of environmental policies.

Monika Wulf-Mathies, the second Bonn nominee, is the most high-powered woman in German public life. She has chaired the OTV public sector union, one of the largest in the world, for 12 years. She will be in charge of regional policy, a job currently held by Bruce Millan, a former Scottish Secretary and a British commissioner. This job carries a relatively low profile in Brussels, but is of greater importance in regions that receive large EU aid, such as Ireland, and parts of Scotland and eastern Germany.

Sweden will also send Anita Gradin, pending a "yes" vote in the referendum this month. A Social Democrat and former Cabinet member, she is now Swedish Ambassador in Vienna. She will be in charge of justice and interna affairs.

Pontiff's strategy backed by Winning

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

CARDINAL Thomas Winning, Archbishop of Glasgow and one of the 30 senior Roman Catholic churchmen to be given the red hat, yesterday welcomed the honour as a gift to the "nation" of Scotland.

He spelt out the conservative traditionalism which has made him a popular spokesman on issues such as Catholic schools, abortion, contraception and the ordination of women. Abortion was "beyond the pale" and the Church's stance against artificial birth control was "prophetic". He said that there was no theological objection to women priests, but the argument based on tradition was insurmountable.

He dismissed speculation that the new cardinals represented an attempt by the Pope to secure a conservative succession. "I think you have to take the Holy Spirit into account. I know some who have not been appointed cardinals who are pretty staunch supporters of the Holy Father," Cardinal Winning said.



Pope: conservative bias over cardinals denied

Pope signals wish for a European successor

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THE Pope, in announcing the appointment of 30 new cardinals, has expressed the wish that his successor will be a man sensitive towards Eastern Europe and probably a European. That papal view diminishes the chances of a black or Latin American becoming the next head of the Roman Catholic Church.

Prominent liberals, who might challenge the Pope's conservative and dogmatic emphasis, were passed over in Sunday's appointments by the ailing, 74-year-old Pope, Vatican spources said. The new cardinals, from 24 countries, are to receive their red hats at a consistory in Rome on November 26. But the Polish Pope also showed his unpredictable nature when he elevated Father Yves Congar, the liberal French theologian, to the rank of cardinal in recognition of his pioneering writings on ecumenical issues.

The appointments brought to 55 the number of Europeans in the 120-member College of Cardinals eligible to elect a Pope, ensuring a high chance of the next pontiff being a European rather than an African such as Cardinal Francis Arinze, an Ibo from Nigeria who is widely regarded as the most likely candidate to become the first black Pope. The composition of the college has also reduced Cardinal Lucas Moreira Neves's chances of becoming Pope. The conservative Dominican, who is now of San Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, is favoured by many members of the right-wing Opus Dei movement, observers of the Vatican say.

According to Peter Hebblethwaite, the distinguished papal biographer, the new college "goes entirely against [Cardinal Carlo Maria] Martini". Nevertheless, the 67-year-old Jesuit Archbishop of Milan is still considered the frontrunner if a conclave were held immediately.

Among leading prelates who were passed over was Archbishop Rivera y Damas of San Salvador, a liberal who was close to the assassinated Archbishop Oscar Romero. According to one expert, "this is really the second time Rivera y Damas has been passed over". Another significant ommission, in spite of the Vatican's recent recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was the Palestinian Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, sources said.

The appointments of cardinals from Albania, Cuba, Indonesia and Vietnam were to honour brave clergy who have worked in difficult circumstances or faced persecution. "The Church has been in great difficulty in Cuba," one Vatican expert said. The Pope recently supported a call by Cuban bishops for lifting the American-imposed economic embargo against the country. "I would see it as a pro-Cuba appointment rather than anti-Castro," said the expert.

He added that he believed that "what the Pope is trying to say is that whoever comes it has to be someone sensitive to Eastern Europe".

Scotland's blessing, page 16
Leading article, page 19

THE VATICAN'S NEW CARDINALS

The full list of cardinals to be created on November 26:

His Beatitude Nasrallah Pierre Sfeir, Maronite Patriarch of Antioch, Lebanon
Archbishop Miloslav Vlk, Archbishop of Prague, Czech Republic
Archbishop Luigi Poggi, pro-librarian and pro-archivist of the Church
Archbishop Peter Seiichi Shirayanagi, Archbishop of Tokyo
Archbishop Vincenzo Fagiolo, President of the Pontifical Council for the Interpretation of Canon Law
Archbishop Carlo Furno, Apostolic Nuncio to the Quirinal in Italy
Archbishop Carlos Oviedo Cavada, Archbishop of Santiago, Chile
Archbishop Thomas Joseph Winning, Archbishop of Glasgow
Archbishop Adolfo Antonio Suárez Rivera, Archbishop of Monterey, Mexico
Archbishop Jaime Lucas Ortega y Alamino, Archbishop of San Cristóbal de la Havana, Cuba
Archbishop Julius Riyadi Darmaatmadja, Archbishop of Semarang, Indonesia
Archbishop Jan P. Schotte, Secretary-General of the Synod of Bishops
Archbishop Pierre Eyt, Archbishop of Bordeaux
Archbishop Gilberto Agustoni, Pro-Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Supreme Court of the Catholic Church
Archbishop Emmanuel Wamala, Archbishop of Kampala, Uganda
Archbishop William Henry Keeler, Archbishop of Baltimore
Archbishop Augusto Vargas Alzamora, Archbishop of Lima, Peru
Archbishop Jean-Claude Turcotte, Archbishop of Montreal
Archbishop Ricardo María Carles Gordo, Archbishop of Barcelona
Archbishop Adam Joseph Maida, Archbishop of Detroit
Archbishop Vinko Puljic, Archbishop of Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina
Archbishop Armand Gaston Razafindratandra, Archbishop of Antsiranana, Madagascar
Archbishop Paul Joseph Pham Dinh Tung, Archbishop of Hanoi, Vietnam
Archbishop Juan Sandoval Iniguez, Archbishop of Guadalajara, Mexico
Archbishop Bernardino Echeverría Ruiz, Archbishop Emeritus of Guayaquil and Apostolic Administrator of Ibarra, Ecuador
Archbishop Kazimierz Swiatek, Archbishop of Minsk-Mohilev, Belorussia
Archbishop Ersilio Tonini, Archbishop Emeritus of Ravenna-Cervia, Italy
Rev Mons Mikel Koliqi, Priest of the Archdiocese of Scutari, Albania
Rev Fr Yves Congar OP, France, writer and theologian
Rev Fr Alois Grillmeier SJ, Germany, theologian



Mavrodi: denied firm was pyramid scheme

Russian in fraud case elected MP

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

SERGEI Mavrodi, the Russian businessman under investigation on charges of massive fraud and tax evasion, has won a by-election, allowing him to plead parliamentary immunity from prosecution.

Mr Mavrodi, who admitted that avoiding being charged was his principal reason for standing for election, was supported by Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the extreme nationalist leader.

The businessman was elected to represent the Moscow suburb of Mytishchi, whose previous deputy was shot in a mafia-style killing in April.

Mr Mavrodi was released from jail last month when he registered as a candidate and had spent two months under investigation, managing his business from his cell and repeatedly denying the criminal accusations and the allegation that his MMM investment fund was a pyramid scheme.

MMM, which was believed to have seven million shareholders, collapsed this year.

Greens allege official lies over size of Arctic oil spill

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

RUSSIAN environmentalists said yesterday that the oil spill in the Arctic region of Komi was almost 15 times larger than the figure given by the Russian authorities. The claim came as Russian and Western journalists confirmed a continuing pattern of deceit by local officials.

Vladimir Zamoisky, of the Social Ecological Union, said studies conducted jointly with Greenpeace showed that 200,000 tonnes of oil had escaped from the pipeline since August. An American company with representatives on the scene has estimated the figure at 270,000 tonnes, and this was confirmed by the State Department in Washington. Officials of the Komi oil company, Komineft, and Moscow claim the figure is only 14,000 tonnes, and accuse the Americans of wishing to discredit the Russian industry.

However, the reputation of Komineft officials for telling the truth contains almost as many holes as their pipeline. The company is accused of trying to cover up the spill, and Komi environmental officials say that the firm waited for days before informing them that a dam built to contain the original leak had burst.

Komineft and the emergencies commission of the Komi republic announced on Saturday that pollution from the spill had been contained and did not reach the Pechora, the main river of the region, which flows into the Barents Sea. They said that pollution had been restricted to eight miles of two tributaries of the river, and that large areas had been cleaned up.

A reporter of the Moscow Times, backed by environmental groups, said at the weekend that there was pollution on the Pechora 25 miles downstream from where the spill occurred. Their reports also say that areas which Komineft claims to have cleaned up are still heavily polluted.

Space 'invasion' alarms US

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

PROVING that Americans have learnt little since Orson Welles sowed panic with a radio broadcast announcing an invasion from Mars, hundreds of worried callers across the country responded to a fake news broadcast showing the Earth being bombarded by meteorites.

Without Warning, the CBS television network's Sunday night film, confused viewers by showing "live" reports of F16 fighter jet aircraft scrambling into the skies to fire nuclear missiles at incoming asteroids.

The programme featured experienced national television reporters, including Sander Vanocur, a veteran network presenter, reading bogus reports from the Reuters and Associated Press news agencies and showing scenes of carnage where meteorites had struck. The two-hour film came to an abrupt halt with the screen going blank during a meteor shower in what was supposedly the end of the world.

Hundreds of telephone calls were received by television stations in Washington, Wyoming, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Tennessee, Louisiana and Las Vegas from viewers seeking more information. In Sacramento, California, callers heard a tape recording advising them: "Non of what you are seeing is actually happening".

"The calls are coming in. They want to know if it's real," said Rob Feiner of the network's New York affiliate. "They're not putting up enough disclaimers."

The made-for-television film was aired on the anniversary of Orson Welles's radio broadcast of H.G. Wells's *War of the Worlds* on October 30, 1938, which provoked uproar by reporting that Martians had landed in New Jersey.

CBS said it had acted responsibly by airing disclaimers during advertisement breaks, but a presenter told viewers at the start of the late news that the film may have confused viewers. "Now here's the real news," he said.



Welles: Mars broadcast set off wave of panic

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Karadzic dons a uniform and vows to take revenge after setbacks for his forces

Rifkind and Perry sketch strategy for Bosnian airstrikes

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON AND JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

MALCOLM Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, yesterday met his American counterpart, William Perry, amid growing Western concern over renewed fighting in Bosnia and the need to define clearer lines of communication between the United Nations and Nato in former Yugoslavia.

Their talks went on as Bosnian Serb and Muslim forces battled for territory and UN peacekeepers expected the clashes to intensify as the rebel Serbs sought revenge for their setbacks.

Bosnia was the main focus of the Rifkind-Perry talks. Both Britain and the United States are pressing for a clearer mandate for Nato in deciding what Bosnian Serb targets should be hit in any future airstrikes. Until recently Nato planes have been allowed to attack only minor targets, but under new rules agreed with UN commanders last week they may now select up to four larger targets of greater military value.

Mr Rifkind's talks come after the introduction of an American resolution at the United Nations to lift the arms embargo against the mainly Muslim Bosnian government. This is putting pressure on Britain and America's other European allies to come up with a better way to break the stalemate as Sarajevo and other parts of Bosnia face the third bleak winter of war.

Mr Rifkind, whose talks are continuing, will wish to discuss the lifting of the embargo, a move which Britain has always viewed as a final resort and would inevitably result in the withdrawal of British UN forces from the region.

The Bosnian Serbs continued to yield ground on several fronts around Bosnia yesterday, hours after the rebels' leader vowed to counter-attack and crush the government army.

The week-old lightning offensive south of Bihac enclave in northwestern Bosnia continued, as United Nations officials revised upwards the territory they believe Bosnian army troops have seized to 100 square miles. The government-held enclave has increased in size by almost 50 per cent in the past week, after nearly two years of paralysis.

South of Sarajevo, Bosnian troops appear to have forced surprised Serb troops back another mile since Sunday afternoon. They were reported to be moving mortars and artillery onto captured high ground to fire on a key supply route linking rebel-held territory in southern Bosnia with the rest of their lands.

Serb forces now control 70 per cent of the country. The past week has been the first of the war where the Bosnian army significantly improved its military position. UN officers suggest that trend may not last long.

Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, appearing for the first time in a military uniform, travelled to the town of Bosanski Petrovac, ten miles east of the Muslim advance. "I was hoping that I'll never have to wear a war uniform," Dr Karadzic told a crowd of 1,000. "But our enemy does not want peace. They want war, and if they want war they'll have it."

Dr Karadzic said that his troops would compel the Bosnian government to surrender by force. So far, however, expected Serb counter-offensives have not materialised. The Serbs have reacted sporadically with artillery and multi-barreled rocket launchers, but the nature of the fighting — mostly in mountains and hills better suited to infantry than tanks and artillery — has given the Bosnian army the advantage.

The Serbs have mortared a Muslim-held suburb of Sarajevo for two nights running, killing three civilians, including a young boy, and wounding more than a dozen. The shelling comes in open defiance of Nato's February 9 Nato ultimatum, but the UN command appears unwilling to call in warplanes against the Serbs for the moment.

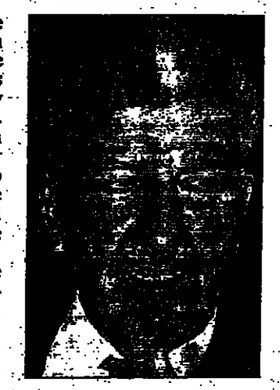
When a Serb army general publicly threatened to shell Sarajevo in response to the Bosnian army offensive in Bihac on Friday, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander, was unequivocal in his retort. "If they do shell Sarajevo, they know what they can expect," the former SAS commander said.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tim Spicer, a UN spokesman in Sarajevo, said yesterday that it was still unclear where the mortar attacks over two nights came from. "If it continues, then we will consider what our military response is," he said. He suggested airstrikes would be unlikely.

Despite the apparently lenient attitude of the UN towards Serb belligerence, the rebels have kept up their pressure on the UN. General Rose travelled to the self-proclaimed Serb capital, in a mountain village outside Sarajevo, to try to ease the UN's difficulties.

The Serbs have maintained a crippling month-long fuel blockade against peacekeepers in UN "safe areas". On Sunday the Serbs stole 100 boxes of men's underwear from a UN relief convoy bound for Gorazde. It was the second underwear theft by Serbs outside Gorazde in two weeks. In the first incident, Serb fighters took 71 pairs of black, one-piece thermal underwear bound for British troops in the enclave.

As part of his programme yesterday, Mr Rifkind witnessed the ceremony when General John Sheehan took over as the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic from Admiral David Miller and also had a second round of talks with the new Nato Secretary-General, Willy Claes.



Skopje: The ruling Alliance for Macedonia won 83 out of 120 seats after a second round of parliamentary elections, according to unofficial results reported by Macedonian state television yesterday. The television, usually reliable and quicker with results than the state electoral commission, said the biggest Albanian party, the PDP, won seven seats. The remaining 30 seats are shared by minor parties and seven independent candidates. President Gligorov, above, an ex-communist who led Macedonia to independence in 1992, was re-elected in the first round of voting two weeks ago. Full results are expected to be available on Monday. *(Reuter)*

Battle on for hearts of Serbs in Croatia

BY MISHA GLENNY

THE apparently arbitrary acts of war being perpetrated in Bosnia are intended to have impact not only in Belgrade and Zagreb but also in Washington.

In the past week, the government's 5th Army Corps has staged a spectacular breakout in northwestern Bosnia, pushing the Bosnian Serb army from 77 square miles of territory to the east and south of Bihac. The latest reports suggest that the Muslim-dominated force may be about to overwhelm Bosanska Krupa, which would be by far the biggest town yet captured by the government.

The Bosnian Serb authorities have been quick to make a crisis out of a drama. The embargo by Serbia on the Bosnian Serb territories is beginning to bite. Shops are empty and prices of goods, particularly petrol, are going through the roof. The Bosnian Serbs need to undermine President Milosevic of Serbia to win their political war with Belgrade.

While most of the 8,000 civilian Serb refugees streaming out of the Bihac area have every reason to leave, there are reports from Belgrade that some of these people are being evacuated from places remote from the fighting in order to create the impression of a catastrophe. Several hundred have been evacuated into the Serb-held region of Croatia.

The sight of large numbers of refugees will revive no sympathy for the Bosnian Serbs among their compatriots in Serbia because the Belgrade media, dominated by Mr Milosevic's grip on television, are ignoring the Bihac events.

But the target of the propaganda campaign which the Bosnian Serbs are trying to sculpt out of the mud and shells of Bihac are the Serbs from Croatia.

Over the past few months, diplomats and politicians from Croatia, Serbia and Knin, the capital of the Serb-held territories in Croatia, have been spending much time trying to construct the foundations of a permanent peace between Croatia and Serbia.

A week ago the Croatian Serbs snubbed a large delegation from Pale, the Bosnian Serb capital, by refusing to deepen the two mini-states' relationship. This means that Mr Milosevic has succeeded in tying a rope around the neck of Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader. "This is the crucial thing for Mr Milosevic," said an official from the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia. "He must not loose Knin to Dr Karadzic. If that happens there will be big trouble."

The only hope the Bosnian Serbs have of regaining the support of Serbs elsewhere is to spread images of civilians from Bihac on the run from the Muslims.

If Zagreb and the Croatian Serbs sign a deal on communications and economic co-operation on Thursday, as international mediators hope, Dr Karadzic could soon lose the battle for the political affections of Knin.



A wounded Bosnian Serb refugee receiving help at a makeshift camp in Martin Brod, 12 miles south of Bihac, from which an estimated 5,000 people fled after a surprise victory by the Muslim-dominated Bosnian government army

Belgrade airline flies in face of convention

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

JAT, the Yugoslav airline, is still not allowed to fly between London and Belgrade, the Serbian capital, even though the United Nations agreed to ease curbs on air transport against the rump Yugoslavia over a month ago.

The Yugoslav airline planned to restart flights from London on October 14, after the UN vote on suspending some sanctions was passed on September 24. A celebratory first flight, with a planned tarmac blessing by a Serbian Orthodox priest and a farewell ceremony attended by the Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires in London, was abandoned three days beforehand when it became clear that permission to fly would not be granted in time.

Britain's Department of Transport is refusing to issue a permit because the rump Yugoslavia of Serbia and Montenegro has not signed the Chicago Convention that sets out minimum safety standards. The old Yugoslavia did sign the convention, but the two remaining republics are not recognised as the successor state.

"Our membership of the Chicago Convention was suspended after sanctions were imposed in 1992," said Bratislav Valcic, JAT's UK director. "But we have never stopped abiding by the rules and we have been maintaining our aircraft."

Adherence to the convention is not a legal requirement for operating commercial flights, according to the International Civil Aviation Organisation, and JAT has begun to fly to Belgrade from France, Germany, Switzerland and The Netherlands after completing bilateral agreements with those countries. Flights between Moscow and Athens and Belgrade began almost immediately after the UN vote.

"One of the reasons for easing sanctions was to allow Yugoslav planes to fly around the world," said Mr Valcic. "It seems peculiar that countries like Germany approved resumed flights without further procedures while Britain will not".

A spokesman for the Department of Transport said: "It is not political. We are trying to find a way round this, but we would be criticised if we allowed airlines to fly without signing the convention." He said that an agreement to allow an airline from Taiwan, which is not a signatory to the convention, to fly from Britain over a year ago was under "very specific circumstances".

Rajko Bogojevic, the Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires in London, said: "I have intervened with the Foreign Office on this matter and it says it is trying to do what is necessary. I think it is unbelievable, it is extraordinary."

More than 1,000 Yugoslavs living in Britain are on a waiting list to fly to Belgrade, as and when JAT resumes flights. Belgrade airport was closed nearly 2½ years ago and most travellers to Belgrade have been forced to make a gruelling road journey from Budapest, the Hungarian capital, or Sofia in Bulgaria.



Chissano takes early poll lead

PRESIDENT Chissano and his Frelimo party surged into the lead as the first unofficial results from last week's elections became known (Michael Hamlyn writes). But since these were mainly from areas known to be sympathetic to him and his party, the lead he is piling up may be cut back significantly as the count proceeds in those areas under the control of Afonso Dhlakama, his main rival and leader of the former Renamo rebels. The President has just over 50 per cent of the vote.

Gun theory

Washington: Investigators questioning Francisco Martin Duran, 26, a hotel worker from Colorado Springs who fired up to 30 bullets at the White House, said they had not ruled out an assassination attempt on President Clinton.

Massacre claim

Phnom Penh: Khmer Rouge guerrillas have massacred up to 46 Cambodian villagers in the northwest province of Battambang after taking a group of them hostage last week, a provincial official said. *(Reuter)*

Position vacant

Honiara: The Solomon Islands was without a Prime Minister after Francis Billy Hilly resigned 18 days after refusing to step down when sacked by the governor-general. *(Reuter)*

Toy exchange

Johannesburg: Children will be asked to hand in their toy weapons in exchange for a certificate from President Mandela, the Gun-Free campaign, backed by Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders, said. *(AFP)*

Smoking cure

Paris: An auction of top quality Cuban cigars personally blessed by President Castro has fetched about £230,000 to help to fund medical aid programmes in the impoverished island nation. *(AFP)*

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£100,000+	7.05	5.29	
£50,000+	6.85	5.14	
£25,000+	6.30	4.73	
£10,000+	6.00	4.50	
£5,000+	5.50	4.13	
Monthly Interest			
£100,000+	6.83	5.12	7.05
£50,000+	6.64	4.98	6.85
£25,000+	6.15	4.60	6.30
£10,000+	5.84	4.38	6.00
£5,000+	5.37	4.03	5.50
PREMIUM 60 INCOME Monthly Interest	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS C.A.R. %
£100,000+	5.94	4.46	6.10
£50,000+	5.70	4.28	5.85
£25,000+	5.13	3.85	5.25
£10,000+	4.94	3.71	5.05
£5,000+	4.46	3.35	4.55
£2,500+	3.98	2.95	4.00
PREMIUM ACCESS Annual Interest	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS C.A.R. %
£10,000+	5.00	3.75	
£5,000+	4.50	3.38	
£2,500+	4.00	3.00	
£500+	3.50	2.63	
£1+	1.00	0.75	

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	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS CAR%
PREMIUM 60 Annual Interest			
£10,000+	5.00	3.75	-
£5,000+	4.50	3.38	-
£2,500+	4.00	3.00	-
£500+	3.50	2.63	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-
SUPERSHARE PLUS Annual Interest			
£50,000+	3.70	2.78	-
£10,000+	3.45	2.59	-
£5,000+	3.30	2.48	-
£500+	2.90	2.18	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-
90-DAY Interest			
£50,000+	3.64	2.73	3.70
£10,000+	3.40	2.55	3.45
£5,000+	3.25	2.44	3.30
£2,500+	2.86	2.15	2.90
PREMIUM INCOME Monthly Income			
£25,000+	5.00	3.75	-
£10,000+	4.50	3.38	-
£5,000+	4.00	3.00	-

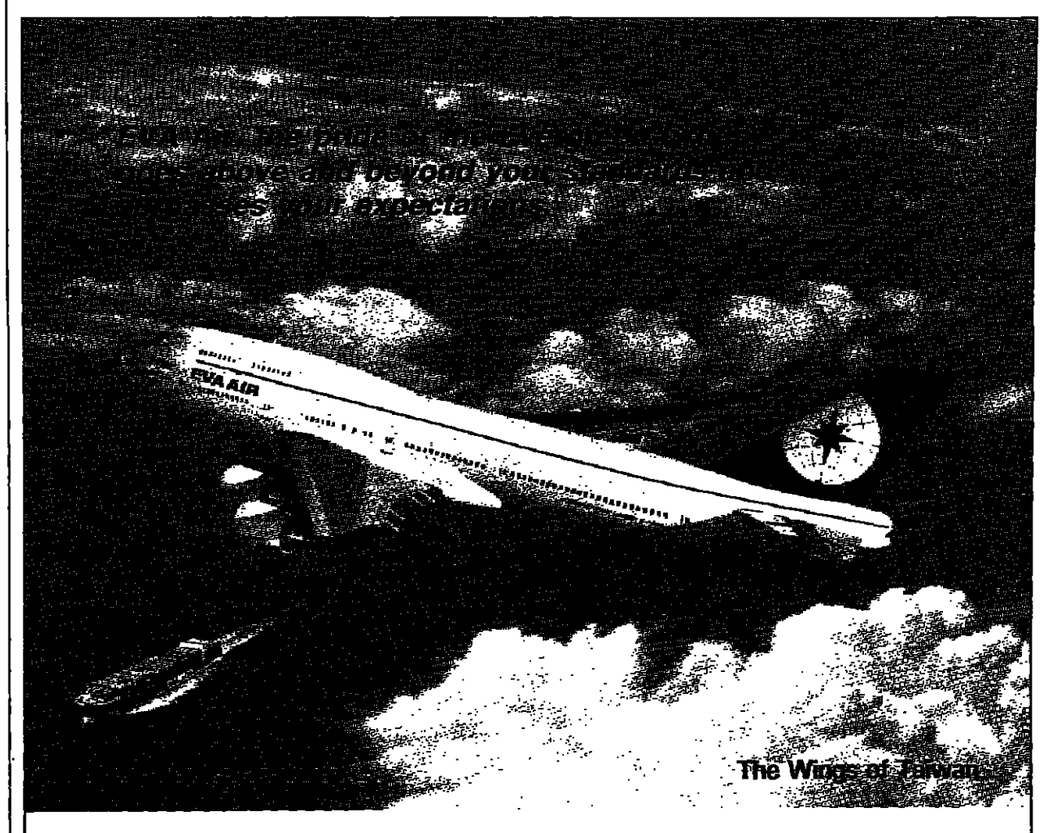
	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %
CAPITAL PLUS SPECIAL ISSUE Annual Interest	4.42	3.32
£25,000+ £10,000+	3.88	2.91
CAPITAL PLUS MONTHLY Monthly Interest	2.95	2.21
CAPITAL PLUS Annual Interest	2.95	2.21
CHAMPION BOND (2nd ISSUE) Half Yearly/Monthly Interest	1.42	1.07
CHAMPION BOND (3rd ISSUE) Annual Interest	2.82	2.12
FLEXIBLE FUND Half Yearly Interest		
£25,000+	1.62	1.22
£1+	1.00	0.75
THRIFTY SAVERS Annual Interest	1.00	0.75
ORDINARY SHARE Half Yearly Interest	1.00	0.75

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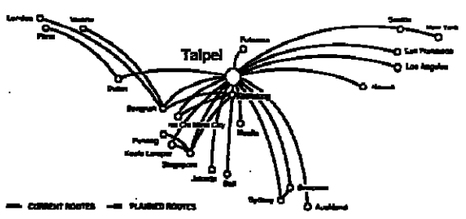


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Julia Llewellyn Smith shares a table by the Thames with two septuagenarian revolutionaries of British cuisine

'When I cooked couscous they looked horrified'


SIMON WALKER

The experts' choice: Carrier introduced Continental cooking to a nation where garlic was almost unknown; Patten was the BBC's first television cook

Just as much as the bread, the wine, the sparkling mineral water and post-prandial coffee, lunch with Marguerite Patten and Robert Carrier consists of a prolonged mutual-admiration session, reminiscent of some elaborate Japanese business ritual. "Isn't she a doll," he sighs frequently. "He is so marvellous," she flutters. "Ask *her* a question, she's so important," urges Carrier. "No, he's so much more interesting than me," purrs Patten.

These are, after all, two of this country's greatest charmers. They have a combined aged of 150 (Patten is 79 this week, Carrier 71 on November 10), combined publications of 174 (160 are Patten's), they are both OBEs and both have made millions from persuading the public that you are what you eat.

Patten, the BBC's first television cook, spent the war years in Harrods food hall, demonstrating 1,001 ways with a ration book and a tin of spam; Carrier, who arrived here in 1953 from America, via Paris ("They ended rationing when they saw I was coming"), picked up the baton, introducing Continental cooking to a nation where garlic had to be hunted down like truffles and and spaghetti was regarded with suspicion.

Patten had helped the nation to become slim and healthy. "It was really a very tough time, but we didn't eat a lot of rubbish." Carrier quickly reversed all this, convincing us that without Calvados, cream, butter and eggs a dish was not worth eating.

His first book, *Great Dishes of the World*, sold 11 million copies and was followed by his revolutionary cookery cards, a television series and his two Michelin-starred restaurants in north London and Suffolk.

Where Carrier led, insisting on exotica such as powdered cumin and saffron rice, Patten followed, gently encouraging the masses to experiment. "I always think I'm helping Mrs Bloggs in Wigan, on a limited budget. When I first did couscous the audience — who thought it was simply semolina — looked horrified. When I showed them what it could be, they began to sit up."

Today, thanks to their influence, couscous is as nearly as common as cod and chips. Both appear on the menu at Terence Conran's Blue Print Café on the Thames, where we are having lunch. I chose the former, Carrier the latter, while Patten decides on the brill. "And we'll have champagne," says Carrier to the waiter, as I wince, knowing my credit card can never support this. The waiter returns flourishing a bottle. "No, not champagne," bellows Carrier. "*Chablis!*" I virtually collapse with relief into his Thai chicken and noodles.

I had booked in the name of Carrier, but we have still been given a lousy table, right next to the door. Either Conran's lackeys are wary of accusations of sleaze, or perhaps they have no idea who Carrier could be. As for Patten, none of them were born when this pretty elderly lady in a natty pink suit wielded her whisk on television.

In the staff's defence, Carrier has been in exile in Morocco for the past 12 years, returning to London when his Christmas-card list revealed that this was where most of his friends lived. Foodies greeted him like the prodigal son, but any fantasies about 12-course extravaganzas were to be dashed. The man who once insisted on three or four vodkas before lunch, had been reincarnated as a quasi-teetotal, demi-vegetarian. It was a bit like Madonna announcing she has taken a job as a clerk with the Inland Revenue.

Mercifully, the conversion was qualified. Like all true gourmets, Patten and Carrier believe that a little bit of everything does you good. "These nutritonists have been so destructive, telling us to cut down on fat," sighs the bird-like Patten. "I don't want to," wails Carrier. "I love fat."

Fat, however, also loved him, hence the new, slimline model who bemoans the number of dinners he is obliged to attend and has a vegetarian slot on breakfast television. Patten's grandson has just abandoned meat. "When I first started," she giggles, "my vegetarian chapters consisted of nut roasts and cheese soufflé and that was that."

"Not many vegetables in your new book, darling," teases Carrier. It's true that Patten's latest collection of recipes, *Classic British Dishes*, will not delight animal-rights activists. Nonetheless, she insists that she is bringing new techniques to old dishes. "Bread and butter pudding is haute cuisine now," says Carrier soothingly. "I think you can have a marriage of foods that's very successful," says Patten, waving her hands in excitement. "You can have plaice beautifully fried plus clams and it's transformed. This is straightforward food. I'm a great lover of nouvelle cuisine, very sheer, clearly indicated food."

Carrier, too, believes simplicity is the way forward. "Economy is going to be a major factor," he proclaims, pronging some ratatouille from my plate. "It's going to cost too much to produce good beef and pork, so we are going to have to get heavily into cereals, grains and vegetables. I desperately wanted to open a new restaurant that followed this philosophy, but I didn't like anybody I was going to do it with, so I didn't."

Many chefs would rather subsist on Mother's Pride than go into business with a man whose moods are volatile as a spinach soufflé. It's a shame, though, since Carrier's new puritanism applies to price as much as presentation. "In ten years time restaurants that cost £100 a time will be like museums. That's obscene now. We want to live a simpler, fresher existence."

While Patten is president of the Microwave Association, Carrier despises gadgets. "The further away from cooking on an open log fire, the worse things get." His mission now is to force the Government to be honest about ingredients. "I want them to kill salmonella, to give us water we can drink." Patten agrees, shuddering. "Oh, I had a cake on British Rail the other day and it had 15 ingredients in it! I can't tell you how horrible it was."

"Olive oil, lemon juice and garlic," says Carrier, pronging his pannacotta. "It's all you need for a long life." Certainly, neither of these septuagenarians show the slightest sign of flagging: Patten, who lives in Brighton with her husband, is demonstrating at Olympia this week and itching to start on book 161. "They're like babies, I love them," she cries. "I love it all, I love seeing people's reactions. We've both had so much fun." "I know," says Carrier, his black velvet waistcoat now speckled with icing. "I think I should pay for being allowed to do the job I do."

● Classic British Dishes, *Bloomsbury, £19.99.* The Best of Robert Carrier, *Bloomsbury, £20.* The Gourmet Vegetarian, *Boxtree £9.99.*

The Pope's maverick Scot

Magnus Linklater on a new Cardinal who champions the poor, the sick and the homeless

The call from the Papal Nuncio took his breath away. For a moment he thought he might have a touch of angina. But by the time he hung up, the news had begun to sink in. And by yesterday morning Archbishop Thomas Winning had begun to appreciate the real significance of his appointment as a member of the Sacred College of Cardinals.

He is only the third Scottish cardinal to have been created since the Reformation — fourth if you count William Theodore Heard in the late 1950s. But Heard does not really count since he spent most of his time in Rome and played little part in Scottish life. Each time the whiff of politics has tended to mingle with the incense. The first, David Beaton, was appointed Cardinal in 1538. He later became Chancellor in Scotland and pursued a strongly anti-English policy, campaigning successfully against the betrothal of Queen Mary to Prince Edward, later Edward VI. He was also a vigorous persecutor of heretics, and it was this which almost certainly led to his assassination in 1546.

Tom Winning, at 69, is a gentler soul by far. He admits to conservative views on the Catholic faith, but his politics are left-wing, and he is very far from a conventional addition to the Pope's hard-line College with its traditionalist membership. He is not Archbishop of Glasgow for nothing, and, as one of his colleagues remarked yesterday, in a more secular role he could well have been Lord Provost or even a hard-grafting Labour MP.

He has championed the cause of the poor, the disabled, and the homeless. He describes himself as "a wee bit middle of the road, a wee bit left and sometimes a wee bit right". But those who remember the way he swung the Catholic Church in Scotland against the poll tax and attacked the wars in the Falklands and the Gulf would be hard put to remember the right-of-centre bits.

Only on matters of religious doctrine is he a more conventional Catholic, and this may well have been what won him the Pope's blessing. He himself says "You can't be a Catholic and not be a conservative", though one of his supporters prefers the phrase "a finely honed respect for tradition". He has been a stern defender of the Church's traditionalist views on abortion, contraception for teenage girls, women priests and Catholic schools. Indeed his championing of the separate status of Catholic education in Scotland has been unswerving throughout his career.

This advocacy of Catholic schools stems perhaps from his own background as the son of a miner in Wishaw who had lost his job and faced real hardship. The young Tom Winning became a star pupil at Our Lady's High School in Motherwell, then went on to St Mary's College in Blairs and St Peter's in Bearsden. He trained for the priesthood at the Pontifical Scots College and the Gregorian University in Rome before being ordained at the age of 23.



Honoured: Cardinal Winning with his grand nephew

He is one of the most relaxed and affable churchmen one could hope to meet, and very far from the image that usually attaches to the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. "He's a maverick," was the view of one Catholic priest from the West of Scotland. "He's hard to pin down. To an extent he's a prisoner of the church's strictures, and occasionally he gets into trouble because he shows a flash of the real Tom Winning, a man who is well in touch with the realities of life. He's very different from the great majority of the Pope's current crop of right-wing Cardinals — particularly the ones from the Detroit rust belt of America with never a hair out of place and their shoes well shined."

It is perhaps Archbishop Winning's views as a Scot that will have struck the strongest chord north of the border. He made a point of saying that his cardinalship was not only a great personal honour, it was a national honour. "We're not forgotten," he added. He meant that Rome had recognised Scotland's separate right to representation in the College of Cardinals. His predecessor, Cardinal Gordon Gray of Edinburgh, who died earlier this year, was believed to have been rewarded specifically for his work in Rome and his support for Pope Paul VI. Archbishop Winning himself, however, had been chosen as a leader of the one million Scottish Catholic community, and with his accession some sort of continuity appears to have been established.

That will have a strong resonance for nationalist opinion in Scotland. Alex Salmond, leader of the Scottish National Party, who has tried to woo the Catholic vote in Scotland, laid stress on its importance, as did George Robertson, shadow secretary of state. But it also focuses attention on what was once a minority and beleaguered faith in Scotland.

Barely 60 years ago the Kirk was campaigning for legislation to force Irish Catholics out of Scotland altogether on the grounds that they were a genetically inferior people. Yet in 1975 Archbishop Winning became the first Catholic to address the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. No wonder the headline-writers yesterday reached for the well-worn phrase "Winning Ways" to describe this cardinal figure on the Scottish scene.

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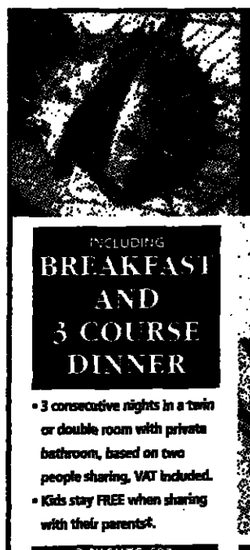
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هكذا من الأصل

People born left-handed might be wise to take extra good care of themselves, and particularly of their heart, says **Dr Thomas Stuttaford**

Have you been handed a disadvantage?

AS Graham Thorpe, the England batsman, packed for Australia, he might have spared a moment to thank his maker for the genes that determined he is left-handed. Though his scores against Western Australia were disappointing, his prowess as a batsman is acknowledged. People born left-handed are more likely than right-handers to have a good eye for the ball and to be better mathematicians.

But it has been recognised for some time that left-handed people are also more likely to suffer epilepsy, congenital heart disease and to die accidentally. The *American Journal of Cardiology* has now reported another penalty: if left-handers suffer from heart disease, they are at increased risk of dying suddenly.

American researchers found that 35 per cent of a small group of heart patients who died suddenly from cardiac arrythmia were left-handed. Thorpe looks fit, does not appear to be an obvious candidate for heart disease and, it is hoped, will never suffer from coronary arterial problems. But if he, or any of the rest of the 10 per cent of the population who are left-handed, have an attack, it is more likely to prove fatal.

Most patients with coronary arterial disease suffer from a progressive narrowing of the heart's arteries, which leads to increasing angina and its characteristic of pain arising from exertion, and a slowly deteriorating cardiac performance. These patients will tell their doctors that physical activities — which they could previously perform without bringing on the classic constricting pain across their chest, possibly spreading up to the neck and face, to their shoulders or down their arms — will now cause them discomfort. Because the heart muscle is being starved of



oxygen as the arteries leading to it narrow, cardiac performance becomes progressively less efficient so that patients notice increasing breathlessness and an unusual tiredness after an ordinary day's work. When these people's heart condition deteriorates to the point where their activities are curtailed, their condition may usually be restored by a bypass operation or, in some cases, angioplasty.

In other patients with coronary arterial disease, the sequence of events is different: they may have comparatively little narrowing of the heart's arteries and few warning symptoms. In such cases, an atheromatous plaque may suddenly become dislodged from the arterial wall and block the artery. The interference with oxygen supply to the muscle delivers such a shock to the mechanism which controls the heart rate that its regular rhythm is destroyed. The heart may beat so irregularly that it may not keep vital organs working.

Dr Andrew Flapan, a consultant cardiologist at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, has written in the *British Medical Journal* on the management of patients, whether right or left-handed, who survive their first coronary thrombosis. His review emphasises the importance of a thorough assessment of these patients, the tests to which they should be subjected and the features in their post-attack condition that predispose to either a good or bad prognosis.

Dr Flapan comments on a patient's increased susceptibility to medical advice just after a heart attack and suggests they should be advised to think about altering their lifestyle by losing weight, modifying their fat intake, stopping smoking, eating fish twice a week and drinking moderately.

Holding old age at bay

Dr Trisha Greenhalgh argues that all menopausal women should stick with hormone replacement therapy

Women going through the menopause commonly experience hot flushes, tiredness, vaginal dryness, and mood swings, all of which can be relieved by oestrogen-based hormone replacement therapy (HRT). The benefits of HRT persist long after menopausal symptoms have ceased, with lifelong protection against heart disease and prevention of the accelerated loss of bone mass (osteoporosis), which predisposes to hip fractures, and collapse of the thoracic spine (dowager's hump).

Given that the average female life expectancy is approaching 80 years, women entering the menopause today can expect to spend a third of their lives in a state of profound oestrogen deficiency unless they can sustain long-term HRT. Yet only 10 to 15 per cent of post-menopausal women use this treatment. Some women, for example those with certain types of breast cancer, are unable to use HRT for medical reasons. A small minority oppose it on principle. But hundreds of thousands of women with no physical or philosophical exception to HRT either never try it or, more commonly, discontinue it after a few weeks or months.

"Why is the threshold so low for giving up on this highly effective and potentially life-prolonging treatment?" is something all gynaecologists and general practitioners should be asking themselves. A survey conducted by Taylor Nelson AGB, the market researchers, in which 242 lapsed users of HRT and 283 current users were interviewed by female researchers, has revealed some disturbing answers to this question. The survey found that 84 per cent of lapsed users still suffered from menopausal symptoms, especially hot flushes, suggesting that perceived "cure" was not a major reason for stopping treatment. About a third of women had discontinued their medication because of side effects (chiefly weight gain and unacceptable bleeding); some felt it was not working; others had run out and not renewed their prescription.

Lapsed users of HRT complain that the decision to start it, and the choice of formulation (pill, patch, etc), were made unilaterally by their GP or gynaecologist; that no alternatives were offered if symptoms persisted or side effects occurred on the first preparation tried; and that little or no information was given along with the drug. This contrasts with typical comments from women who continued HRT: that the doctor (often at a well-woman clinic) was helpful and informative; that leaflets about the menopause were supplied; that the patient was involved in treatment decisions; and that regular follow-up appointments were arranged to discuss problems and encourage continued use.

Patients are more likely to discontinue their medication if they do not understand (or agree with) the reasons for taking it, and are less likely to do so if they are actively involved in the choice of treatment. In the Taylor Nelson survey, 30 per cent of all women interviewed claimed to know nothing at all about HRT, and of those who did know something, only a minority were aware of the long-term protection against osteoporosis (37 per cent) and heart disease (10 per cent). Although 80 per cent thought that women should have a say in the type of HRT prescribed, only 30 per cent felt that their GPs had involved them in this decision.

Dr Sally Hope, a GP and chairwoman of the Primary Care Group in Gynaecology, a national pressure group of GPs who campaign for better standards of care for gynaecological patients, says: "This research confirms our fear that many women are giving up on HRT prematurely without trying the different alternatives available. It is vital that patient and doctor discuss the various choices from the outset and that they work together to find the most suitable one."

Dr Margaret Rees, a gynaecologist who runs a menopause clinic at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, says: "Women need informed counselling about HRT tailored to their individual needs like the contraceptive pill. HRT comes as a patch, pill, implant and cream and women may have to try several different methods for at least six months each before finding a suitable regimen."

The survey suggests that many doctors require an urgent change of approach to their menopausal and post-menopausal patients. The misery and avoidable handicap from osteoporosis is set to become one of the great epidemics of the 21st century.

I believe that more than half the population should be persuaded to persevere with a drug treatment for 40 per cent of their adult lives, even when they have no symptoms. An essential prerequisite is that doctor's orders must give way to informed patient choice.

● *The author is a London GP.*

KURT HUTTON/PICTURE POST



Old before their time: bridge at the Ladies' Carlton Club, 1947. Today older women can be protected against osteoporosis and other consequences of oestrogen deficiency

Trapped in our Stone Age bodies

Dr Bruce Charlton on why the survival instincts of prehistoric man could affect our health today

Human beings are designed by natural selection for the life of a Stone Age hunter-gatherer. This is because our ancestors spent a million or more years roaming the African wilderness, compared with only a few thousand as agriculturists and a couple of hundred as industrialists.

The fact that our bodies and minds are adapted to maximise the reproductive success of a Palaeolithic nomad may cause serious problems when it comes to living in the modern world.

The implications of evolution for health have often been the subject of speculation since Charles Darwin published *On the Origin of Species* way back in 1859. But it must be admitted that most of this speculation was simplistic and unconvincing.

Theorists have often tried to explain modern humans as a direct product of evolution, whereas our adaptation to modern conditions is only indirect. However, recent developments offer the potential for a new synthesis to explain the evolutionary roots of human health and disease.

The new field is sometimes termed Darwinian medicine, and one of the leading exponents is the independent scientist Margie Profet. She has produced massively documented hypotheses on topics such as why women are afflicted with the monthly problem of menstruation, and what could be the evolutionary value of pregnancy sickness.

Allergy has always been difficult to explain. Some allergens are themselves toxic, such as drugs and venoms, but it is hard to imagine why humans have evolved serious and sometimes fatal reactions to harmless substances such as peanuts and pollen. So, what is happening?

Profet proposes that the typical symptoms of crying, coughing, sneezing, scratching, vomiting and diarrhoea can be seen as trying to get rid of a harmful substance immediately, before it can cause irreversible damage to internal organs.

Profet's suggestion is that allergy has evolved as a last line of defence against dangerous toxins, or to the carrier proteins that bind toxins. Because toxins can be rapidly fatal, the reaction to them must be faster than the normal antibody response to germs, which may take several days.

Allergy is a response to a large and easily identifiable but harmless protein molecule which has, by unfortunate coincidence, been chemically linked to a dangerous toxin. Profet points out that the apparent increase in allergy in modern times might be a consequence of increased exposure to toxins, perhaps due to damage from the repeated minor infections which are a result of living in crowded communities instead of small nomadic groups. Moderate allergy would also be expected to protect against toxic damage and its consequences such as malignancy.

An association between health and behaviour is obvious where health status differs between social groups. But it is probably a mistake to explain specific bits of modern human behaviour (or lifestyle) in terms of evolutionary value, because examples of behaviour are extremely varied. But human *psychology* must have evolved, just as human bodies evolved; and a knowledge of basic psychological mechanisms can give insights into some otherwise perplexing aspects of human life.

The nature of evolved human psychology is still uncertain. However, one example is the work on the nature of reasoning by Leda Cosmides and John Tooby. They point out that humans are social animals, and mechanisms to ensure co-operation are therefore vital to maximising our success. But equally it does not pay to be gullible — a one-sided tendency to help others without any chance of help in return could never have offered a selective advantage in a tribal society. Human psychology seems to have evolved to promote *mutual* assistance.

'Allergies are the result of crowded conditions'

Evolutionary theory could have profound implications for the understanding and investigation of health. What served us well in a tribe of nomads may be useless or harmful in modern society, but we are stuck with our Stone Age minds and bodies.

● *The author is a lecturer in Public Health Medicine at Newcastle University.*

TOMORROW

Iain R. Webb on this year's fashion essential

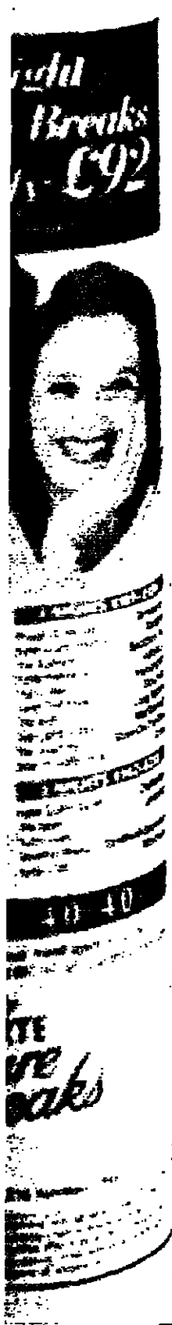
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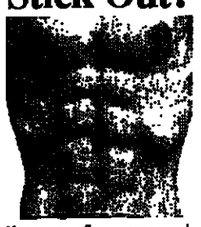
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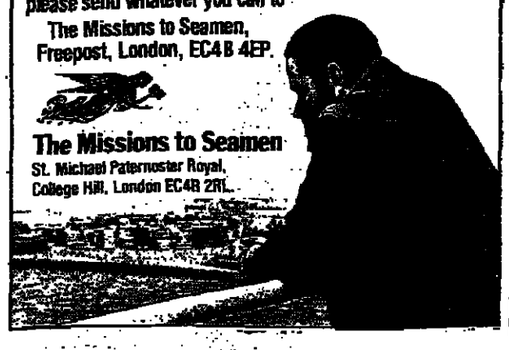
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BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION

Why we need a strategy, not platitudes

The Foreign Secretary's pieties about France show how supine our foreign policy has become, says **Alan Clark**

By one of those bitter paradoxes that seem to blight the evolution of our European policy, the French were conniving in the humiliation visited on Sir Leon Brittan in the very week that the Foreign Secretary was extolling the possibilities of a new "special relationship" with France. Nothing could better have illustrated the contrast between the policy attitudes of the two countries: one devious, nationalistic and single-minded, the other hesitant, ingratiating and inconsistent.

Impervious to reality, or even to instinct, the Foreign Secretary told his audience that "there are no two substantial countries so similar as France and Britain".

I cannot be alone in regretting that so fastidious and intelligent a statesman should have assigned the composition of such a speech entirely to officials. How contemptuously Ernie Bevin — this century's best Foreign Secretary — would have excised "one dam clitch after another", from "new partnerships are being forged" through "... decided to continue our dialogue" and "... have to agree a flexible basis" to "I need remind nobody here that ..."

A theme of the speech, muddled (perhaps deliberately) but repetitious, was the subordinating of British defence deployment to non-British chains of command: "Regiments which may once have faced each other at Blenheim or Waterloo are now thinking and acting together." An agreement has apparently been signed (by whom?) committing us to joint training and exercises. Let us hope they don't run into 2 Para on a Saturday night.

> French hostility towards us remains implacable

Hurd's conclusion is both revealing — "Much hard work is needed": *ie* all the concessions are presently being made by Britain — and disingenuous — "The history of past centuries tended to divide us. The history of this century brings us together." This last assertion is wholly invalid. The French army mutinied in 1917, barely firing a shot thereafter, so Passchendaele and the 1918 campaigns were fought at appalling cost by the British and, latterly, the Americans. During the Munich crisis in 1938 the Daladier government refused point-blank to honour the Czech guarantee, and in the following year did its best to delay implementing that to Poland. In 1940 the French army ran away at Sedan. The Petain administration then surrendered, and two weeks later made a separate peace, in breach of solemn and repeated undertakings to Churchill. The Vichy government collaborated with the Nazis and was resolutely hostile to Britain until it became clear that the Axis was going to be defeated. It fought bitterly against us at Dakar and in Syria. In 1941, more British servicemen were killed by the French than by the Italians, and the antipathy was maintained by de Gaulle, who despite implied assurances to Macmillan vetoed our entry into the EEC in 1962.

To this day the hostility, in practical terms, is implacable. French diplomats may periodically sidle up (if they want something) and "confide" how worried they are about German hegemony, but the reality is one of deliberate and pervasive espionage, unscrupulous leaking of diplomatic papers, hostile briefings on persons and products in third countries, and systematic obstruction at Brussels.

Nor is this attitude confined to official circles. Navy personnel are beaten up on shore leave, lambs are burnt, fishing boats are rammed and boarded. The *gendarmerie*'s singling out for detention and penalty of British-registered cars and trucks from a line of *infracteurs* is notorious.

Periodic outbreaks of Francophilia such as our Ambassador's "Towards a New Entente" are not usually worth contending, but when the Foreign Secretary takes this line, a serious policy confusion is indicated.

I do not concur entirely with Norman Tebbit's lethal analogy. "The MAFF exists to look after farmers: the Foreign Office to look after foreigners": I see that department (where Douglas Hurd was himself once a civil servant) more as a group of very clever people *without strategic objective* who have relapsed comfortably into their own ethic, which sees diplomacy, consensus and negotiation as ends in themselves. Good (orthodox) conduct is rewarded by the most congenial career structure in Whitehall. Everywhere around the globe, the comfortable quarters of an Embassy building await those steadfast in their propagation of The Line to Take.

But in a post-Cold-War world, Britain has three key objectives: to defend our UN Security Council seat, to maintain our place in the G7, and to derive the maximum (measurable, not abstract) benefit from our EC membership.

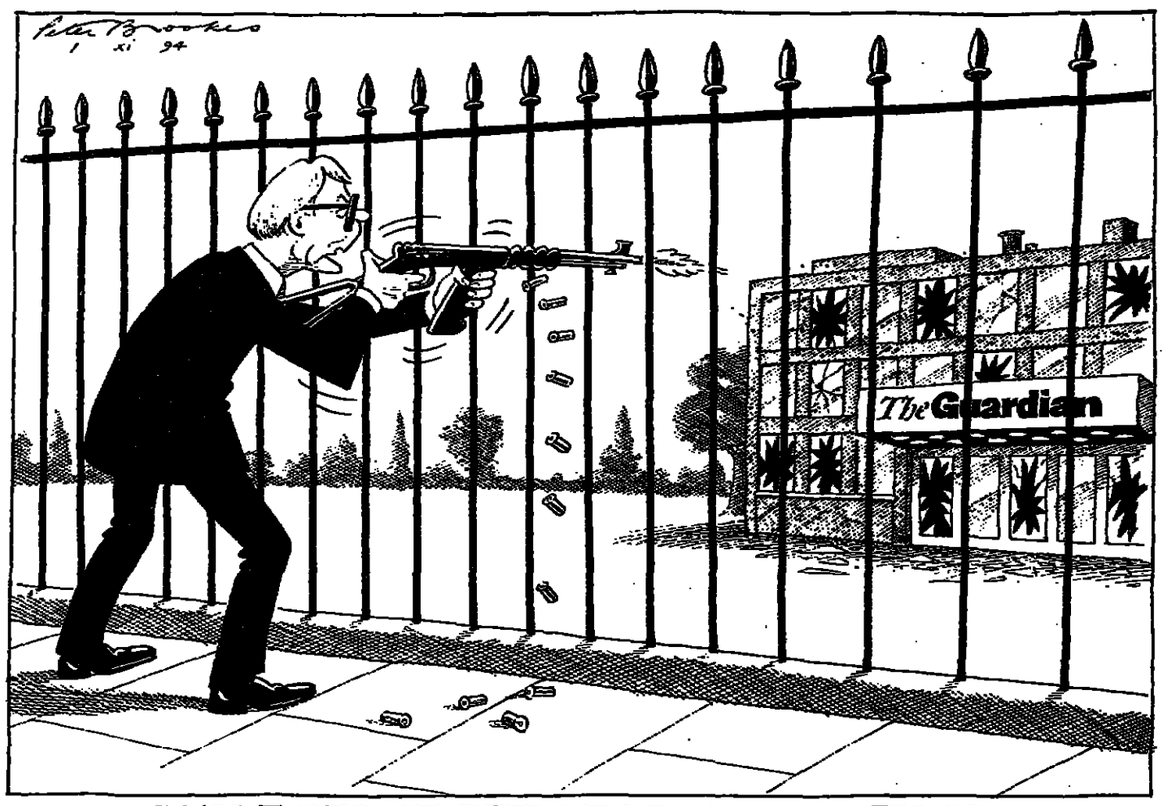
Security Council membership is founded on military effectiveness: speed of response, skill, professionalism and "throw-weight". None of these is likely to be enhanced by contrived inter-operability with a country that could field no heavy weapons in the Gulf, whose aircraft-carrier broke down halfway, and whose political consistency is, to say the least, unpredictable.

The Foreign Secretary told the Tory party conference that he wanted to bring Europe round to "our way of thinking". Whether this is a realistic ambition remains to be seen, but it is certainly more likely to be retarded than advanced by our "forging" an exclusive partnership with a single member state — let alone with the one which has in the past been most hostile and obstructive.

The only prospect for the Community's survival is if ministers can reassert their authority over the Commission, drawing it back from the bureaucrats and into the Council. Not only is this approach diametrically opposite to that of the French (who are entirely content with the existing tendency, which they both initiated and control) but its consummation entails constant *ad hoc* shifts of policy as different issues arise and the interests of different member states alter.

I recognise, of course, that prominent Europhiles feel themselves losing ground in the country and in the Tory party, but ministers of this persuasion will make very little progress while they entrust the composition of their speeches to a word-processor stocked almost entirely with *idées reçues*.

The author was chairman of the EC Internal Market Council of Ministers in 1986 and a defence minister 1989-92.



MAN FIRES AT WHITER-THAN-WHITE HOUSE

Let the bosses pay

Policyholders must not be penalised for the insurance swindles, so...

Bernard Levin

I intend to discuss the pensions scandal again, so I must make my familiar disclaimer: I have no personal animus on the subject, my own pension arrangements having been perfectly handled. But several hundreds of thousands (some experts say that the number will in the end run to a million or more) are not so happy.

If you think they should be, just follow Mr Andrew Large as he goes on his *via dolorosa*. Mr Large is the head of the Securities and Investments Board, and it is his unpleasant job to plough the stinking midden — the midden, that is, in which the pensions industry has long and pleasurably wallowed and in which it must now be obliged to stop the wallowing (and *a fortiori* the diddling), and come to justice, in the form of cleaning up its mess. And if you think I am using language too lurid for the story, let me tell you that when the SIB's first stage of cleaning was announced, there was a singularly unlovely sniffing and squealing and whining from the industry within a few *hours*, its representatives claiming — well, I'll tell you exactly what they were claiming. Hear Mr David Prosser, group chief executive of Legal & General: "We believe that the SIB is unfairly putting too great a burden of the costs of resolving the issue on the life assurance industry." Others say that "the Government played no small part in causing the problems thousands of consumers now face".

Just stop and think about the sniffing and squealing and whining from Mr Prosser about the reimbursement of the diddled, and then hark to the other voice which is trying to put part of the blame on the Government. And you can count on the fingers of a very seriously deformed hand the pension companies which are now saying that because they did the wrong they will now gladly put it right.

Thousands upon thousands of policies were sold (all within the law, mind) to thousands upon thousands of innocents whose purchases were hopelessly unsuitable. No, it's worse than that, isn't it? In a vast number of those cases of unsuitable policies, the policyholder had already had a perfectly suitable policy, whereupon the fast-talkers got to work and persuaded them to change to others that were, and were known to be, wholly *un*suitable. And Mr Prosser and his like say "We believe that the SIB is unfairly putting too great a burden of the costs of resolving the issue on the life assurance industry."

Am I getting heated? Yes, I am. Barry O'Brien of the *Telegraph*, has found, in Frickley, Yorkshire, an entire community of redundant miners almost all of whom had substantial redundancy payments, and in addition sums from the Mineworkers' Pensions Scheme. Now hear Mr John Stones, branch secretary of the NUM: "People from the banks and insurance companies were round here like vultures trying to get our members to transfer to personal pension schemes." Unfortunately, many heeded the vultures, and they are still struggling to get what they would have had if they had not been diddled.

Very well: those who have been tricked are to get proper remuneration. And when will they get it? If they are lucky, two years hence. And then hear Mr John Beishon, Director of the Consumers' Association, many of whose members have been diddled by the insurance company smoothies. Too harsh a judgment? Let Mr Beishon speak:

> Even for those cases which will be reviewed, time-scales for compensation have been arranged at the convenience of the insurance industry rather than addressing the harm suffered by individual pension-holders.

Rather grimy, wouldn't you think? And while I am on the subject of grime, at the end of the pension story in *The Times* there was a tiny item, hardly noticeable except to scoundrels like me, which went like this:

> Mick Newmarch, chief executive of the Prudential Corporation, yesterday sold a parcel of shares in the company, earning himself a profit of more than £200,000. Just hours before the SIB report was published, he executed an option of 208,750 shares at 198.9p each. The shares were then sold in the market for 296p, a profit of 97.1p a share.

Cynic that I am, I must admit that when I heard there was going to be a reckoning, with the villains unmasked and the pure in heart taken up in a fiery chariot to sing with the angels, I laid my index finger alongside my nose, and winked. If the latest news from the front is true, my cynicism was and is needed. Oh, I dare say that Mr Large is not the kind who gives in easily, or indeed at all. He has already made clear that there will be no hanky-panky this time, saying "Poor advice has been given and that advice has to be paid for by the industry which gave the advice". But Mr Large goes further, saying "It is now clear that too many personal pensions were improperly sold in the past".

In the kind of language that people like Mr Large use, a word such as "improperly" is a very strong signal; it must mean that more powerful measures are needed. Certainly Mr Bill Day, who is the pensions officer of the General, Municipal and Boilermakers Union believes that there should be criminal proceedings, and even if that is going far, it would not be *very* far. And John Monks, general secretary of the TUC, said the most sensible and truthful words in the entire horrible mess: "This whole sorry saga has soiled the reputation of companies that were once household names for probity."

Well, they aren't now. But weasel does as weasel is: whatever Mr Large says, whatever Mr Monks says, whatever I say, the life offices will be working day and night to shift the burden of their shame onto the shoulders of the salesmen, when they know it was the companies that did the dirty work with gloves on, and that the salesmen were their instruments without.

And now there is talk, among the bosses of the pension companies, of weaseling into the courts, which would mean that none of the swindled would get anything for several years, if indeed they got anything at all after the lawyers had had their slices. More: the Pearl group admits that there was a "secret meeting" to discuss the extent of insurers' liability. And Mr Grant, of Sun Life, foaming with rage, is "afraid that plans for paying compensation could be illegal and, if implemented, could trigger legal action against insurance directors for breach of fiduciary duty from policy-holders whose funds would be used. These policyholders would pick up the bill even though they had not been part of the débâcle".

Here, I sympathise with Mr Peter Grant and his mates. Of course Mr Grant is right to say that he can't "take some policyholders' money and give it to others who deserve compensation". But Levin, always ready to help, has got the answer. Why don't the directors — Mr Grant of Sun Life and Mr McKay of Pearl, and all the bosses of all the pension companies involved — pay the swindled policyholders *out of the bosses' own pockets*? Assuredly, they have sufficient funds to carry out my idea, and that is the only way it can be fairly done, because otherwise, as Mr Grant rightly says, it would be the policyholders who would be rooked, and no one in the entire pensions system would ever wish to be involved in any kind of rooking.

I come back to Mr Monks, who said that companies that were once household names are now soiled. Too true. But I think his point goes further, very much further. It was not only the pension companies which turned out to be a parcel of rotters; is there not a widespread soiled attitude to probity in general? I am not an expert in the Stock Exchange, but I realise that what Mr Mick Newmarch did was not illegal, nor was he breaking Stock Exchange rules. But did he at any point stop to think what the public at large might think of him? And if he had done so, might he have thought again? I don't know, but would he have done it years ago?

Well, years ago, the Prime Minister would not have needed to set up a committee, with a judge on top, to distinguish a huge pile of ordure from a couple of MPs such as Riddick and Tredinnick. Now, we have to wait for six months to discover that some MPs are quite startlingly different from others, that sleaze is sleaze, that the Paris Ritz is very expensive though very comfortable, and that something is rotten in the state of Denmark. But I bet that they don't have people like that in Denmark anyway.

Not fit to be British

Al-Fayed spells trouble, says **Woodrow Wyatt**

It beggars belief that any intelligent person could believe a word the Fayed brothers said after the 1990 report by the Department of Trade and Industry inspectors on the House of Fraser, the owners of Harrods. The Fayeds (not their real name) aim to destroy Mr Major and his Government and the fabric of British public life. Why? They want that DTI report annulled. Their appeal to the European Court of Human Rights to do it was rejected.

The DTI inspectors were Henry Brooke, QC, and Hugh Aldous, FCA. My copy of their remarkable and lucid report was marked as "first published 1988". It was held up until March 1990 pending inquiries by the Serious Fraud Squad. The inspectors wrote that "The Fayeds dishonestly misrepresented their origins, their wealth, their business interests and their resources ... we received evidence from the Fayeds, under solemn affirmation and in written memoranda, which was false and which the Fayeds knew to be false. In addition, the Fayeds produced a set of documents they knew to be false ... The lies which the Fayeds were telling about themselves and their resources were given a credibility they would not have otherwise attained when they were repeated by their very reputable advisers ... They did not check the accuracy of what they were told ... How experienced and reasonable men came to accept the Fayeds as what they purported to be is one of the worrying mysteries of this case."

The press too was criticised. "During our investigations we learned to distinguish the work of genuinely independent investigative journalists from the work of those who reproduce what they are told without much inquiry and sometimes with fanciful elaboration ..." The mass of pro-Fayed press coverage "helped to isolate and cast serious doubt on the quality of the small amount of work by genuine investigators".

Take the distinguished journalist Ivan Fallon, who was inclined to favour the Fayeds. In an interview with him in *The Sunday Times* in 1985, the brothers told him much that should have rung alarm bells. When questioned by the inspectors, Mohamed Al-Fayed glossed over the interview and said: "I have no comments on any reporter or on journalistic hallucination or sensational writings."

Every MP, minister and shadow minister should read the report, particularly its conclusions, before some of them, from all sides, make even bigger fools of themselves. The great editor of *The Manchester Guardian*, C.P. Scott once said: "Comment is free but the facts are sacred". Too many modern journalists ignore this, being too lazy to check their "facts", but still ready to comment on them as though they were true.

Scott must spin in his grave at the antics of the pitiful Peter Preston, confidant of and collaborator with Mohamed Al-Fayed. They concocted the device of forging a letter supposedly written by Jonathan Aitken and signed by his private secretary, requesting a reply and giving *The Guardian*'s fax number. This was to conceal Mohamed Al-Fayed's activities in his preposterous campaign against Mr Aitken over a confused bill.

The Fayed brothers had a go, too, at the impeccably honest Home Secretary, Michael Howard, accusing him of unfairly delaying their application for British citizenship. The wish to become British is strange for a pair who do their utmost to blacken our ministers and civil servants. The Prime Minister has passed to the Director of Public Prosecutions notes of his conversation with a Fayed intermediary who warned him — possibly even threatened him — about what was to come.

The Fayeds have demonstrated their unworthiness to be British. I am puzzled why they were not brought to court after the DTI report published details of their fraud. If there is no intention of proceeding against them, they should be deported.

Meanwhile, MPs of all parties, and journalists, should realise that supping with them, or talking to them, gives a hostage to fortune. Similarly, even the most virtuous among the well-known should not stay at the Ritz Hotel, Paris, in case what they have said or done, paid for or not paid for, is lied about and distorted.

Mohamed Al-Fayed has now admitted taping a conversation with his old enemy, "Tiny" Rowland of Lonrho during one of their bouts of reconciliation. The DTI inspectors noted that "Mr Rowland and other directors of Lonrho turned out to be their own worst enemies. They had so badgered and berated everybody ... that there was a limited willingness to accept what Lonrho said at face value".

But whatever the failings of Mr Rowland's prolonged dealings with the Fayeds, he was right about them.

Fifth season

CULINARY circles have whipped themselves into a *soufflé* at the prospect of a new London restaurant. Raymond Blanc, chef of Oxfordshire's Le Manoir aux Quat' Saison, the most highly-rated country-house hotel and restaurant in Britain, is thinking of starting up in the capital.

The site of his proposed gastro-dome is County Hall, the former GLC building. His partner in the business would be the bearded businessman Richard Branson, who has shares in Blanc's business in Oxfordshire.

"Raymond and I are already partners in the Quat' Saisons and he has always wanted to have a London base as well," says Branson. "We are exploring the idea of a restaurant at County Hall, where there will be a number of different restaurants from different countries."

Branson's company is to manage County Hall on behalf of Japanese property developers who plan to turn it into a hotel complex. Blanc is excited by the prospect. "We shall see what happens. No decision has been taken on the restaurant so far, because it's early days," he says. "But it's the right place in London. It could do very well."

Indeed, the situation could not be better for a certain sector of the lunching populus. County Hall overlooks the Thames opposite the House of Commons. And despite the prevalent fear of "freebies" in the House, many MPs would find an invitation to a Raymond Blanc lunch (costing up to £110 per head) hard to resist.



County Hall cuisine?

● *Despite the pressure from MPs on him over his fake fax, Peter Preston, editor of* The Guardian, *has not yet gone back to the pipe which he cast aside ten weeks ago. Which explains why, whenever the sleaze spotlight turns on him, he is always chewing a nicotine-soaked chewing-gum.*

Unstable plot

THE BBC came close to bringing the Government down yesterday. For a while it looked as if the ground was going to give way under John Major's feet.

The Prime Minister was opening a BBC exhibition on parliamentary reporting at Dr Johnson's House in Gough Square, London. Unfortunately, he had to deliver his speech in the great man's garret. The ancient floor creaked and groaned ominously. The worried organisers quickly imposed a limit on the numbers packing the tiny room.

"Talk about a security risk," muttered one Special Branch officer mopping his brow. "This could bring the house down."

No favours

EXPECT another rush by MPs to declare perks in the register of interests. For Eurostar, the super Channel train service, is offering all MPs a free trip before November 14, when public services start.

"That is correct, we want them to be able to experience the journey," says Ken Gibbs for the company. (Unfortunately, the "journey" to date has included long delays and unscheduled stops in the Channel.) "We are making the offer to all MPs without fear or favour," adds Gibbs. "Especially favour."

Not playing

HE MAY have told us of the Prince of Wales's predilection for belly dancers, Brazilian ladies and Barbra Streisand, but Jonathan Dimbleby is not man enough to enter the gladiatorial arena of royal biographers. He pulled out this weekend of an appearance on the BBC's *Late Show* with Anthony Holden and Andrew Morton, two other leaders in the regal field.

The show is to be screened on Tuesday week without him. Dimbleby's literary agent says he is being very selective. His publishers blame "pressure of commitments". But Theresa Smith, who is co-ordinating the programme, is disappointed. "The intention was that all three should discuss the noble art of royal biography, but unfortunately Mr Dimbleby was unable to come." Holden had been spoiling for a fight: "I am very surprised and disappointed that Jonathan has refused to take part in the programme," he snorts. "It would have been a better conversation if he had been involved, and it looks as if he is fighting shy."

● *My report that Nick Robinson, deputy editor of* Panorama, *has been appointed special adviser to the Heritage Secretary Stephen Dorrell was incorrect. He assures me that he is staying at the BBC.*

Flap happy

THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS are boasting a gauche, long-necked new recruit. It is a goose, presented to the regiment in memory of an 18th-century mascot by the Hungarian Brigade's Seventh Company while on joint military exercises. "We are checking the rules about how to get it back into the UK," explains our man in Budapest. Sir John Birch, British Embassy staff are meanwhile busy tending the bird.

Hopefully the gander will enjoy a happier fate than Jacob, the original goose, which saved the regiment during the war with the French in Canada by raising a cacophonous alarm. Jacob was returned to London where he used to parade with the sentry at the barrack gate — until, tragically, he was run over in Portman Street.



P·H·S

UN IRRESOLUTION

With Nato's hands tied, Bosnia's Serbs play the UN like a pipe

The increasingly bitter argument between Nato and the United Nations over the uses of air power in Bosnia has been increasingly ignored. But after two months of negotiation, it has not been resolved. Because the role of military deterrence in peacekeeping operations lies at the heart of the dispute, this failure threatens to diminish the credibility of the two organisations, both in Bosnia today and elsewhere.

The loss of the hard-won gains in Bosnia stems from the inherent flaws in this command-and-control relationship. Last February, Nato decided to use airpower, when requested by the UN, to end the "strangulation" of Sarajevo and other Bosnian "safe areas". The threat was initially effective, because the Bosnian Serbs expected force to be used. But in Gorazde last April, the absurd and complex chain of command failed its first serious test. Since then, the response by Nato and the UN to repeated Bosnian Serb provocations has been either pinpricks — the destruction of the odd abandoned tank — or apparent paralysis.

The initiative in calling in airstrikes rightly lies with ground commanders, although clearer and firmer rules are badly needed. Sir Michael Rose's definition of what constitutes defiance of the UN has become so elastic as to exclude the renewed sealing off and shelling of Sarajevo; increasing harassment of UN forces, including a Bosnian Serb blockade of UN fuel supplies; and continued deportations of Muslim civilians. But the main problem is the so-called "dual key" control of Nato airstrikes, a misnomer because it cedes even tactical decisions to Yasushi Akashi, the UN's diplomatic representative. It is an operational nonsense.

In September Nato ministers, divided as they are over America's continuing demand to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia, agreed that tougher action was required. They asked the UN to agree on new rules to allow Nato to retaliate faster, and harder. But the compromise reached modifies the status quo only slightly. The UN has agreed to end the prior warning system which gave the Serbs time to move guns or tanks: UN commanders will now give a "political" warning of an impending strike, but will not reveal the time and location of the attack. Nato will still, however, have to defer to the UN on the choice of targets. And on grounds of "proportionality", the UN has resisted Nato's case for hitting strategic targets such as arms dumps or factories in retaliation for Bosnian Serb violations, rather than the actual weapon, often militarily insignificant, which launched a given attack.

Sarajevo faces its third winter under siege: without water, electricity or even gas supplies. Bosnian Serb shelling has resumed. When more shelling was threatened last week in retaliation for Bosnian gains in the northwest, General Rose retorted: "If they do, they know what they can expect." The answer is still "not much". This is political as well as military folly. The Bosnian Serbs' war machine, under embargo from Belgrade, is for the first time showing signs of strain. Pressure on them should be intensified. Instead, with Nato's hands tied, the Bosnian Serbs continue to play on the UN like a pipe.

This will continue so long as the UN continues to treat Nato as a mere sub-contractor, rather than as its full operational partner. The conclusion Nato will rightly draw is to be wary of putting its military capacity at the service of the UN in future. Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, complains constantly that the UN is deprived of military muscle. It will continue to be, so long as he refuses to contemplate a workable relationship between overall political direction and operational efficiency. At the UN summit on peacekeeping reforms in January, this institutional impasse must be firmly removed.

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Self-regulation cannot solve Parliament's problems

The decision by the Speaker of the House, Betty Boothroyd, to hold an inquiry into *The Guardian*'s use of forged Commons writingpaper was a development in the cash-for-questions affair. Jonathan Aitken, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, has not yet answered all the questions that have been asked about his stay in the Ritz Hotel in Paris last year. But this failure — such as it is — has been overshadowed by the tactics that were used by *The Guardian* to bring the matter to light. The calls yesterday for the Metropolitan Police to hold a formal investigation into the newspaper's actions were premature. But the sooner the Speaker resolves this matter with the help of the Serjeant at Arms, the better.

In the same debate, Tony Newton, chairman of the Privileges Committee, confirmed that its report on the cash-for-questions affair would indeed be published. He nonetheless resisted Labour calls for selectively open hearings. Attention has focused in the last few days on the terms of reference of this inquiry, which has already been boycotted by Labour MPs because of its secrecy. There have been private suggestions that the Government recognises the need for greater openness and would like to reach a compromise with its critics.

The position of the Privileges Committee in this sort of case is necessarily awkward. On the one hand, it must act as a club tribunal, expected to resolve the internal difficulties of the House as swiftly and efficiently as possible. On the other, it must maintain public confidence in the internal affairs of Parliament. It is reasonable to argue that greater openness would bolster Parliament's reputation; or, more narrowly, that the committee should discuss generalities in public and specific cases in private. Yet the approach of MPs to this issue yesterday hinted at a recognition that the design of the stable door is of little consequence once the horse has bolted.

Broader questions are being asked by responsible parliamentarians about the difficulties in which they now find themselves. In this respect, they have been done a considerable favour by the controversy surrounding *The Guardian*'s conduct. For politicians, the cycle of claim and counter-claim has been unexpectedly suspended — at least for the time being. Two ministers have lost their jobs; another has come under relentless fire because of a single hotel bill. The Home Secretary has been cross-examined by the Cabinet Secretary about allegations of impropriety. The body politic needs a pause to draw breath and reflect on its predicament.

What should be obvious to parliamentarians by now is that self-regulation is no longer enough. John Prescott, the deputy leader of the Opposition, was right to observe yesterday that "all of us are to some extent on trial". Lord Nolan's committee on ethical standards in public life should already be considering the expansion of its own remit to deal with future cases which might imperil the credibility of Parliament or Government. The time to tinker with select committees is long past.

LIGHT IN THE DARK

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, *Hebrews, 12:1*

For the Christian Church, November opens with a Janus face — the Feast of All Saints and the Commemoration of All Souls, though the popular observance of Hallowe'en, the eve of All Hallows, or All Saints' Day, has a greater contemporary prominence. All Saints' Day is the older festival, originating in the 4th century and associated with the first of November since the 8th. The Commemoration of All Souls began with a letter of St Odilo of Cluny in 998 encouraging the monasteries of his order to add to the celebration of the saints of God the solemn remembrance of all the faithful departed. So just as in the early Church Good Friday and Easter were held together as a single celebration of the "Passover of the Lord", so these two days are a single affirmation of the final clauses of the creed: "The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting." Seen together they are like shot silk, the gold of Easter shining through the darkness of the Passion; the glory of heaven and the darkness of death.

Saints were one of the casualties of the Reformation because the cult of the saints was perceived as being in opposition to the centrality of Christ. Yet that is a false perception. The saints are saints only by the grace of God. Their holiness is not the fruit of their own effort and merit, but of the Christ who is at the heart of their lives. John Keble spoke of the holiness of the saints as "the Saviour in his people crowned" and Hopkins wrote of "Christ playing in ten thousand places, lovely in eyes and limbs not his". The first saints celebrated by the Church were martyrs. The "cloud of witnesses" of which the Letter to the Hebrews speaks is a rainbow cloud, including not only those put to death for faithfulness to Christ but also those who served the poor, proclaimed the gospel, founded religious orders, reformed and governed the Church, were great teachers of Christian truth. Their lives conveyed the reality of the grace of God not only to their contemporaries but to those who came after them.

The Feast of All Saints is a feast day of Jesus Christ, "the feast of all his glorious actions in the whole body of the people he saves". As such it challenges Christians to take their faith seriously as that which by grace can change and transfigure their lives. It challenges all men and women to ask what human life is about, and what are the true gleams of glory to be celebrated in human lives. If it be true that goodness can be portrayed only tangentially, then it is not surprising that many of the saints have been counted by the world as fools, and seen themselves as being fools for Christ's sake.

If All Saints speaks to us of "the spurs, wings and enflamers" of the way of Christ, All Souls reminds us of our mortality and of frailty and failure. Death tears at the net of our human belonging, and the death of others, as well as our own death, mocks at our meaning. To believe and trust in "the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting" is to trust in a life, a grace, and a communion, born of a victory over sin, evil and death itself. In All Saints and All Souls the light of Easter breaks on the dark November night.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Roads versus rail: is Mawhinney on the wrong track?

From Mr C. D. Power

Sir, You report today that the Transport Secretary has dismissed the recommendation of the royal commission inquiring into transport and the environment that the Government should halt its road building programme ("Mawhinney turns down green lobby over roads", October 27).

How depressing to read that once again a Transport Secretary apparently assumes that we will be unwilling to accept the change in lifestyle implicit in shifting the balance from road to rail.

For 20 years I have reluctantly used my car to travel to work, not because I am having a love affair with it nor because I crave the freedom which it is supposed to give me. I did it because the alternative of crowded, uncomfortable, dirty trains, frequently cancelled without warning and usually involving long waits on draughty platforms in the evenings, was a greater evil.

May I put three points to the Government:

1. Public transport expenditure is a long-term investment whose payback goes far beyond the profitability of individual transport undertakings.
2. This expenditure must be made before people will change their lifestyles, not vice versa.
3. Millions of motorists are longing to give up using cars once they have really viable alternatives.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER POWER,
Swanmore Lodge,
Upper Swanmore, Hampshire.
October 27.

From the Rural Dean of Okehampton

Sir, Your publication of Clive Aslet's article (October 14), "Fleecing the country voters", together with news of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution's suggested increase of 31p per gallon in road fuel tax, was ironic. Both fail to acknowledge one simple necessity of country living, mobility.

Mr Howarth's 22-mile daily drive to work (letter, October 17) is by no means unusual for those living in the rural South West — many experience longer. Mrs Elliot's suggested daily cycle ride (letter, October 20), even if work within five miles were obtainable, would be defeated for many people by the terrain.

The "free enterprise culture" has brought many benefits; it has also led to the decline of rural public transport with deregulation and the demise of the village shop and made the motor car indispensable for those in remote areas.

If politicians are to be taken seriously by rural voters then they must offer them serious and innovative policies, not diluted suburban ones. We need a package which looks beyond the idyll of country living, recognises the current state of the infrastructure in rural areas and does something to enhance rural life; not more punitive fuel taxes.

Yours etc,
RUSSELL CHAMBERLAIN,
The Vicarage, 1 Church Path,
Okehampton, Devon.
October 21.

From Mr D. H. Worskett

Sir, Your leader, "Fuel of controversy" (October 26), wrongly dismisses the prospect of technological development as a major element in the necessary struggle to arrive at an environmentally "sustainable" level of road and car use.

Improvements to engines and fuels have already reduced emissions from cars by 50 per cent since 1990, and these will fall by a further 25 per cent by 1996. The scale of those benefits will increase very significantly as new-generation vehicles with electronic engine management systems, catalytic converters and other new technologies progressively take over from older cars.

The right point to make about technology in this context is that it is moving too slowly in tackling a number of specific, clearly identifiable problems. Two good examples are our continued technological inability to target, identify and deal with the minority of seriously polluting vehicles, and the failure to deal with "dirty diesels", among which, sadly, are to be found many of the buses which are intended to provide "alternative" environmentally acceptable public transport.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WORSKETT
(Director, Public Affairs),
RAC Motoring Services,
14 Cockspur Street, SW1.
October 26.

From Mr Mike Brading

Sir, What the royal commission may have missed is that the solution is to work at home more often, not to get to work by public transport.

Dramatic moves towards teleworking and away from commuting are needed. Legislative changes are required to support this. Yet the commission wants more investment in public transport so that more people can sit in miserable silence on the 8.13 and the 5.58 for a quarter of their working hours.

Yours sincerely,
MIKE BRADING
(Executive Director),
Continuous Improvement Ltd,
Birchland, Ravensworth Road,
Mortimer West End,
Reading, Berkshire.
October 27.

From Lady Katherine Farrell

Sir, Might it not have been more constructive if the members of the royal commission reporting on transport and the environment had spent their time and our money on ensuring that a successful electric engine was designed for the motor car?

Yours sincerely,
KATHERINE FARRELL,
Cuttmill House,
Watlington, Oxfordshire.
October 28.

Call for debate on nuclear stations

From Professor Sir Hermann Bondi, FRS

Sir, The Government's nuclear review is receiving submissions both in favour of and against building new nuclear power stations. The outsider has a right to be suspicious of assumptions shared by the adversaries and therefore not debated. Two of these worry me.

First, it is taken for granted that a subsidy is needed for nuclear power. Why? In Belgium, Switzerland and Finland it seems such a subsidy is not required. For what reason is this country different?

Secondly, it is taken for granted that any new station to be built should be a PWR (pressurised-water reactor) and not an AGR (advanced gas-cooled reactor). A decade or more ago such a choice would have been sound and rational because of the poor experience with AGRs, particularly in the building phase (large cost and time overruns), but also of unsatisfactory availability in operation. Now the experience is quite different, with construction satisfactory and availability amongst the best in the world.

Again, why is the old decision not being questioned in the light of this new knowledge?

Yours faithfully,
HERMANN BONDI,
Churchill College, Cambridge.
October 26.

New coinage

From Dr Alastair Lack

Sir, I do hope that the Royal Mint will take the opportunity to restore euphonic names to our coinage, along with the proposed new designs (report, October 27).

We have lived for over 20 years with multiples of "pees". Can we hope for a return of shillings, florins, crowns, and pounds — and perhaps, for the £2 coins, nobles?

With best wishes, yours sincerely,
ALASTAIR LACK,
The River House, Coombe Bissett,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.
October 30.

From Mr Martin Kebbell

Sir, Surely anyone with the most superficial knowledge of our numismatic history will agree that with each new successive issue of coins over the past 60 years they have become uglier. Need this deterioration continue?

Admittedly it is no longer practical to design in such beautiful intricacy as with, for example, a George III half-crown, since the base metals used nowadays will not take such detail; but surely we have artists and designers who could bring back grace and distinction to the money we all have to use daily. Why not a national competition?

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN KEBBELL,
Avondale, Newchapel Road,
Lingfield, Surrey.
October 28.

GCSE grades

From Professor R. N. Franklin, FEng, Vice-Chancellor of City University

Sir, On October 28 you reported differences between examining boards in their proportion of grades B and C at GCSE in mathematics and science. This is the proper concern of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

However, there has been a much more worrying trend in these subjects over at least the past five years. The numbers of candidates at A level are in absolute decline and on a trend which would see them reach zero by 2010. At that point, the relative proportion in different grades would become academic; indeed, the statistical justification for the current methodology of determining the distribution between grades would be lost a little earlier.

Yours etc,
RAOUL FRANKLIN (Vice-Chancellor),
City University,
Northampton Square, EC1.

Quango appointments

From Mr Jonathan Davies

Sir, In the excitement over appointments to quangos, it might not be amiss if the authorities took a look at the court and council of the National Museum of Wales, with its 11 branches scattered across the country.

The direction of the museum is entrusted to a council of 15 members — some elected, others appointed — answerable to the court of governors. The court is some 50-strong and its members are appointed by a wide variety of public bodies and interested parties.

Three honorary officers are appointed by the court for terms of five years, and other members of the council are appointed by the Secretary of State for Wales, the court of governors and the council itself.

There are bound to be shortcomings in such a system: but when set against the two alternatives — complete authority to the Government of the day or a massive, unruly and unmanageable bureaucracy, vetting nominations from everywhere — there is much to be said for it. There is diversity and there is accountability, and it works.

The only group of people to have let us down are the Labour MPs on the Welsh Grand Committee. Six places on the court are reserved for MPs, and Labour have used their majority to allocate all six to their own party rather than allow an equitable representation to other political parties.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN DAVIES (President, National Museum of Wales, 1987-92),
Stonehill House,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

Legal terms

From Dr M. J. Pelling

Sir, It is pointless to substitute long-established Latin legal terms with English equivalents (report, October 28) because the case precedents in the law reports, often going back for over 100 years, have used those terms and therefore the law student or layman researching his case will still have to learn them.

As a layman who has successfully brought a judicial review case in person I object to replacing concise Latin terms, whose meanings are not hard to learn, with less elegant English terminology. What would really help the layman is not this kind of patronising and cosmetic change but giving him access to the law at a price he can afford.

Yours sincerely,
M. J. PELLING,
3 Avenue Road, Forest Gate, E7.
November 1.

Transporting livestock

From Mrs Nicholas Graham

Sir, Today you reported the failure of European Union farm ministers to reach agreement on a uniform limit to the length of time livestock may be carried without rest, food or water. Mr Waldegrave is said to be disappointed, but wishes ferry companies to resume the carrying of livestock "because of the damage it was doing to farmers", according to your report.

A Minister of Agriculture should consider the damage such resumption would cause to animals. One would like to suggest that Mr Waldegrave (renamed Minister for the Meat Trade?), in the company of NFU members, be crammed into a container lorry on a voyage around Europe for 36 hours in exactly the sort of conditions so graphically exposed by the RSPCA.

Ferry companies have taken practical steps to halt in this country a cruel and unnecessary trade: they deserve our admiration.

I remain yours faithfully,
ANNE GRAHAM,
Petham House, Petham,
Canterbury, Kent.
October 26.

Healing agents

From Mrs Christina Pinkerton Flynn

Sir, I was interested by Dr A. C. Richardson's letter (October 25) on the use of honey as an anti-bacterial agent, particularly for treating ulcers.

As a child in Scotland I had many a poultice of soft soap and sugar to extract the poison from any wound that became septic. It is still used by many people to remove slivers. I've never known it to fail.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINA PINKERTON FLYNN,
Arran Cottage,
Greenacres, Plumpton, Cumbria.

Popular music

From Mr Martin Bloomfield

Sir, I have recently been of the opinion that there has been a great improvement in BBC Radio 1, both in presentation and musical content. Your report (October 29) that its core audience has halved in the past 18 months appears to confirm my opinion.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BLOOMFIELD,
3 Shore Place, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

A name for Heathrow

From Mr D. Ray Chaudhuri

Sir, Being an Indian in London for a short while, I have been following the letters on renaming Heathrow airport (October 21, 25, 28) with great interest.

In India, during the post-independence era, a massive renaming exercise was carried out, replacing old British names with Indian ones. However, in certain cases the old names continue to persist even today, after more than 45 years.

Probably the old names, because of their wide use and popularity, had sunk deep into the people's psyche, being passed down by generations, or the new names just did not fit the places. So people still commute to Dalhousie Square in Calcutta rather than Bejoy Badal Dinesh Bag, as it appears in official records.

If ever there is a serious move to rename Heathrow Airport, this experience could probably be given due cognisance.

Yours faithfully,
D. RAY CHAUDHURI,
632a Finchley Road, NW11.

Baghdad embassy

From Sir Terence Clark

Sir, As the British Ambassador to Iraq from 1985 to 1989 I was dismayed but not entirely surprised to read Richard Beeston's report (October 22) from Baghdad about the danger of the embassy sliding into the Tigris.

During my incumbency that danger had already been recognised after high flood water had damaged the wall that separates the embassy from the river, and British consulting engineers were called in to advise. They recommended remedial work to the wall but I assume that the Gulf War and its aftermath made such work impractical.

But it would indeed be a sad loss if the building were to collapse, as it is redolent with history. It was probably built in about 1875 and was known as Kadhim Pasha's Palace after the brother-in-law of the last Sultan of Turkey, who resided there as a political detainee.

It is set in a park of some 6½ acres and was purchased in 1920 by Sir Arnold Wilson to provide offices for the High Commissioner, Sir Percy Cox. A residence was built at the side but was destroyed by fire in 1958.

During my time the embassy was completely and handsomely refurbished, retaining all its original features such as the vaulted sirdabs (cellars), the honey-coloured brickwork from which layers of paint were blasted away and the marble fountain in the centre of the inner courtyard.

I am sorry that your correspondent found it so run-down again after all that restoration work and hope that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office may find some means of maintaining the fabric of the building against the day when it will be possible to resume relations with Iraq and reoccupy this historic mission.

Yours sincerely,
TERENCE CLARK,
The Hurlingham Club, RANELAGH GARDENS, SW6.

Business letters, page 29

Letters for publication may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Western Sahara

From the Ambassador of Morocco

Sir, You published a letter in your October 24 issue, written by the Committee for a Free and Fair Referendum in the Western Sahara, regarding the "non-implementation" of the UN settlement plan.

I believe that the members of the committee have not yet had the chance to see the UN Secretary General's latest report, and therefore I should like to bring to their attention (and that of your readers) the fact that Dr Boutros Boutros Ghali underlined in his latest report (A94/294) that Morocco had acquiesced in the compromise proposal in its current form, whilst Polisario have maintained very strong objections.

That notwithstanding, the peace plan is well on its way and the registration process has begun in earnest. We hope that the referendum will take place in early 1995, as proposed by the UN.

That being the case, we do not see the necessity for any further talks, as the writers of the letter urge. The UN have a plan endorsed, unanimously, by the Security Council by virtue of many resolutions.

We invite our opponents and their sponsors to join us in lending a good hand to the UN Secretary General in his noble endeavours, in order to put an end to this issue. We further invite them to refrain from trying to conjure up more tricks, such as calling for direct talks which boil down to no more than delaying tactics.

Yours etc,
KHALIL HADDAOUI,
Embassy of Morocco,
49 Queens Gate Gardens, SW7.
October 27.

Cutting it fine

From Mr Norman Martin

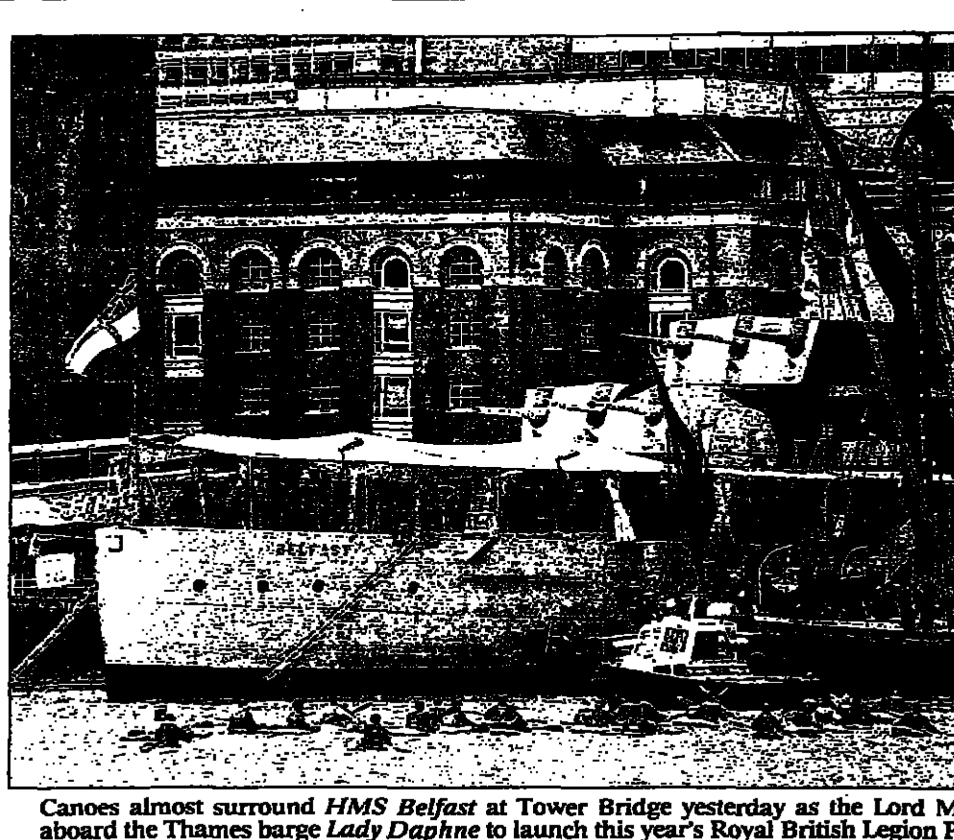
Sir, Car parking spaces at Salisbury District Hospital are marked "Day surgery unit. Maximum stay 30 minutes only". Is there another hospital with a quicker turnround for these patients?

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN MARTIN,
31 Balmoral Road,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 31: The Duke of Edinburgh this evening arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from Israel.
Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.
ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 31: The Prince of Wales this afternoon departed from Heathrow Airport, London, to visit Los Angeles, United States of America, and Hong Kong.
The following were present and took leave of His Royal Highness: Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London (Field Marshal the Lord Bramall, KG), the Honourable Timothy Deal (American Deputy Chief of Mission) and Sir Francis Kennedy (Special Adviser to the Chairman, British Airways).
Mr Stephen Lamport, Major Patrick Tabor and Mr Allan Percival are in attendance.
KENSINGTON PALACE
October 31: The Duchess of Gloucester was present at the Women of the Year Luncheon in aid of the Greater London Fund for the Blind at the Savoy, Strand, London WC2.
The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this evening at a Dinner given by His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan and Madame Fujii at 23 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8.
Mrs Michael Wigley and Major Nicholas Barne were in attendance.
YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 31: The Duke of Kent, Patron, this morning visited the Institute for Occupational Health, the University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of West Midlands (Mr Robert Taylor).
His Royal Highness this afternoon opened a new factory extension of FABDEC Limited, Grange Road, Ellesmere, Shropshire, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Shropshire (The Viscount Boyne).
Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.
The Duchess of Kent *this afternoon* visited the RNLI Lifeboat Station, Albert Quay, St Helier Harbour, Jersey, St Helier, the Channel Islands, and was met on arrival by the Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey (His Excellency Air Marshal Sir John Sutton.)
Her Royal Highness opened St Ewold's Residential Home, Trinity Hill, St Helier, and visited the Eric Young Orchid Foundation, Victoria Village, Trinity, Jersey.
The Duchess of Kent this evening attended a dinner at Government House, Jersey, the Channel Isles.
Fiona, Lady Astor of Hever was in attendance.

ALAN WELLER



Canoes almost surround *HMS Belfast* at Tower Bridge yesterday as the Lord Mayor of London arrives aboard the Thames barge *Lady Daphne* to launch this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in London. The canoeists included Bill Sparks, the last survivor of the Cockleshell Heroes who, in a daring canoe raid in 1942, made their way 60 miles upriver to destroy German ships in Bordeaux harbour, southwest France.

Birthdays today

Mr Umberto Agnelli, deputy chairman, Fiat, 60; Alderman Sir Hugh Bidwell, former Lord Mayor of London, 60; Professor Sir Hermann Bondi, former Master, Churchill College, Cambridge, 75; Admiral Sir John Bush, 80; Mr Terence Cuneo, painter, 87; Miss Victoria de los Angeles, opera singer, 71; Mr Michael Denison, actor, 79; His Honour George Dobry, QC, 76; Miss Tazeena Firth, designer, 59; Mr Nigel Fox Bassett, former senior partner, Clifford Chance, 65; Mr Bruce Grocott, MP, 54; Lord Harmar-Nicholls, 82; Mr David Harris, MP, 57; Mr D.C. Hobson, former senior partner, Coopers and Lybrand, 72; Sir Wynn Hugh-Jones, diplomat, 71; Mr Andrew Knight, former executive chairman, News International, 55; Dr J. Dickson Mabon, former MP, 69; Mrs Naomi Mitchison, author, 97; Mr Nick Owen, broadcaster, 47; Mr Gary Player, golfer, 59; Mr John Pullen, rugby player, 53; Mr James Ramsden, former MP, 71; Mr Gerald Ratner, former chief executive, Ratners Group, 45.

Sheila Lochhead

A Memorial Celebration for Sheila Lochhead, née MacDonald, will be held on Thursday, November 10, at noon, in the Canada Room, Royal Commonwealth Society, 18 Northumberland Avenue, London, WC2. Anyone who knew Sheila and would like to join us in this celebration of her life is most cordially invited.

Meetings

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Irving Yass, Under-Secretary, Department of Transport, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mrs Elizabeth Cresswell presided.

Atlantic Council
Mr Peter Mandelson, MP, was the speaker at an Atlantic Forum Briefing arranged by the Atlantic Council of the United Kingdom last night at Buckingham Palace Road. Mr Alan Lee Williams, director of the council, presided.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Benvenuto Cellini, sculptor and goldsmith, Florence, 1500; Antonio Canova, sculptor, Possagno, Italy, 1757; Pietro da Cortona, painter and architect, Cortona, Italy, 1596; Nicolas Boileau Despréaux, poet, Paris, 1636; John Strype, historian, London, 1643; Spencer Perceval, Prime Minister 1809-12, London, 1762; Stephen Crane, poet, author of *The Red Badge of Courage*, Newark, New Jersey, 1871; L.S. Lowry, painter, Manchester, 1887; David Jones, writer and artist, Brockley, Kent, 1895; Edmund Blunden, poet and writer, London, 1896.

DEATHS: John Radcliffe, physician, Carshalton, 1714; Alexander Cruden, author of *Biblical Concordance*, London, 1770; Lord George Gordon, Protestant agitator, Newgate Prison, London, 1793; Alfred Mynn, cricketer, London, 1861; Theodor Mommsen, historian, Charlottenburg, Germany, 1903; Alfred Jarry, dramatist and poet, Paris, 1907; Ezra Pound, poet, Venice, 1972; King Vidor, film director, California, 1982.

Today is All Saints' Day (All Hallows' Day).

The Bank of Scotland was founded, 1695.

The first radio licences went on sale in Britain at a cost of ten shillings (50p), 1922.

The first stretch of the M1 was opened, 1959.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the Tiger Club Dawn to Dusk Competition panel of judges, will preside at a meeting of the judges at Buckingham Palace at 10.00; and, as patron, will attend a reception at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 6.40.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Chartered Institute of Transport, will attend a 75th anniversary luncheon at the New Connaught Rooms at 12.30; as President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend a 75th Private Appeal Committee meeting at Buckingham Palace at 5.30; and will attend a 75th birthday appeal dinner at Buckingham Palace at 7.50.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President of the British Consultants Bureau, will attend the annual meeting and afterwards will present the British Consultants of the Year awards at the Churchill Inter-Continental Hotel, W1, at 10.55.

The Duchess of Kent will visit the Jersey Milk Marketing Board at Five Oaks, St Saviour at 10.00; will open Mont-à-l'Abbé School, St Helier, at 11.00; and will visit the occupation and liberation tapestries, the Jersey Museum, the Weighbridge, at 12.15.

Princess Alexandra, as Vice President, will present the first Muriel Monkhouse award at the British Red Cross Society, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, at 1.45; and will visit the Park Lane fair in aid of the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops at the Park Lane Hotel at 3.00.

Yad Vashem Ceremony

Sir Sigmund Sternberg, representing the Board of Deputies of British Jews, presented messages from the Chief Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks, and Archbishop Gregorios of Thyateira and Great Britain, at the Yad Vashem Memorial Ceremony in Jerusalem yesterday, at which HRH The Duke of Edinburgh received the "Righteous Among the Nations" award on behalf of his late mother, Princess Alice.

Memorial services

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Michael Llewellyn
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Colonel Sir Cennydd Traherne, KG, and the Prince of Wales by the Lord-Lieutenant of Dyfed at a service held on Sunday in memory of the life and work of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Michael Llewellyn, Lord-Lieutenant of West Glamorgan, at St Mary's, Swansea. Prince Edward *was represented* by Mrs Sandra Skinner and the Duchess of Gloucester by the Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan. The Lord Chancellor was represented by Mr Richard Grobler, the Secretary of State for Wales by Mr Michael Scholar, and Viscount Tonypandy by Colonel Peter Howells, Chairman of TAVRA Wales.
Canon Don Lewis officiated, assisted by the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, who also pronounced the blessing, and by the Rev Ann Lewis and Canon Dr David Walker. Colonel Howells, and Mr J.W. Gordon Hayes read the lessons. The Rev Major-General Morgan Llewellyn gave an address. Among others present were:
Lady Llewellyn (widow), Miss Sarah Llewellyn, Miss Caroline Llewellyn and Miss Lucy Llewellyn (daughters), Major and Mrs W J Hacket Pain (brother-in-law and sister) and other members of the family.
The Lords-Lieutenant of Gwynedd, *Mid Glamorgan, and Powys*, the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Gwent, the High Sheriffs of West Glamorgan, South Glamorgan, and Powys, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Swansea, the Chairman and the Leader of West Glamorgan County Council, the Chief Constable of South Wales, Mr Donald Anderson, MP, representatives of the Order of St John, Royal British Legion, British Red Cross, Normandy Veterans, Air Training Corps, Army Cadets, SSAFA, and the Scout movement, together with many other friends.

The Rev Professor Matthew Black
A service of thanksgiving for the life of the Rev Professor Matthew Black, theologian, was held on Saturday at the Collegiate Church of St Salvator, St Andrews. The Rev Dr James B. Walker, Chaplain of St Andrews University, officiated, assisted by the Rev Lawson R. Brown and the Very Rev Professor Emeritus James A. Whyte. The lessons were read by the Rev Fiona Lillie and Dr Ronald A. Piper, Principal of St Mary's College, St Andrews. The Rev Dr John Fleming, the Rev Professor Emeritus R McL Wilson, and the Very Rev Professor Emeritus James A. Whyte paid tribute. Miss Catherine Black and Miss Alison Black, granddaughters, first and second violin, accompanied by Mrs Hetty Buchanan, cello, played the second movement from Bach's *Concerto in D Minor for Two Violins*. The Principal of St Andrews University was represented by Professor J.R. MacCallum, vice-principal.

Dinners

Shipwrights' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual dinner of the Shipwrights' Company held last night at the Mansion House. Mr Michael Robinson, Prime Warden, assisted by Mr Ole Kverndal, Renter Warden, and their ladies, received the guests. The Prime Warden presided and Sir Alan Donald also spoke. Among those present were:
The South African High Commissioner, the Masters of the Ironmongers', Barbers', Watermen and Lightermen's Companies and the Master of the Cutlers in Hallamshire; the Flag Officer Portsmouth, the *Commanding Officer of HMS Ark Royal* and the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Irish Guards.

Foundation for Science and Technology
Lord Butterworth, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a dinner discussion of the foundation held last night at the Athenaeum Club.

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, was present at a dinner held by the Club at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff last night, in honour of Mr Hugh Morris, Captain, Glamorgan County Cricket Club. The Guest Speaker was Mr Christopher Martin-Jenkins, *Daily Telegraph* cricket correspondent. Mr Ceri Preece, Hugh James, Jones and Jenkins, Solicitors, presided.

Society of Stipendiary Magistrates for England and Wales
The Lord Chancellor attended a dinner held by the society, jointly with the Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrates, at The Middle Temple on Friday, October 28, 1994.

Luncheon

Women of the Year
The Duchess of Gloucester was a speaker at the Women of the Year luncheon held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel in aid of the Greater London Fund for the Blind.
The Marchioness of Lothian, founder president, presided with Miss Paddy Campbell, Executive Chairman, the Hon Diana Makgill and Miss Floella Benjamin, vice-chairmen, the Countess of Airlie, Lady Healey, Miss Virginia Wade, Mrs Charlotte Baden-Powell and Miss Val Arnison, vice-presidents, and Mrs Odette Hallowes, GC, founder president.
The international guest of honour, Mrs Helen Suzman, Ms Sandi Toksvig and Miss Paddy Campbell also spoke. The Frink award was presented to Mrs Vicki Sheen. The other guests of honour were:
The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Ms Diane Abbott, MP, Miss Joan Armatrading, Miss Pam Ayres, Miss Presiley Baxendale, QC, Dr Fiona Caldicott, Mrs Jean Clark, Mrs Suzanne Durr, Dr June Goodfield, Ms Sophie Grigson, Mrs Patricia Hopkins, Ms Mary Hufford, Miss Betty Jackson, Professor Ludmilla Jordanova, Dame Jill Knight, MP, Ms Maggi Koumi, Dr Penelope Leach, Ms Maureen Lipman, Ms Sue MacGregor, Mrs Anne Maguire, Mrs Penny Marshall, Ms Sheila Masters, Mrs Marguerite Mitchell, Dr Yvonne Moores, Miss Jennifer Page, Ms Sara Parkin, Judge Pearce, Miss Elizabeth Rees-Jones, Ms Diana Rigg, Ms Janine Roxborough-Bunce, Miss Galina Samsova, Ms Clare Short, MP, Ms Hilary Strong, Ms Moira Stuart, Miss Janet Suzman, Miss Vivien Tierney, Miss Joanna Trollope, Lady Valzey, Ms Marina Warner and Yazz.

St Andrew's Ball

The St Andrew's Ball will be held in London on Friday, November 25. There will be a pre-ball session at Wandsworth Town Hall on Thursday, November 3. Ball tickets are £28, Dinner tickets £11 extra, from the Ball Secretary, The Garden House, Cheriton, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 0QQ. Tel 0962 771352, Fax 771667.

Honorary degree

The University of Warsaw has conferred the title of Doctor Honoris Causa on His Honour George Dobry, QC. He is Chairman of the British Centre for English Legal Studies at Warsaw, which is directed by the Law Faculty of Cambridge University and the Cambridge Centre for European Legal Studies.

Latest wills

Mr Dennis Christopher George **Potter**, of Duxmere, Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester, the playwright, author and journalist, who died on June 7, left estate valued at £536,402 net. He left four shares in PFH (Overseas) Ltd each to his daughter Sarah and Judy E. Daish, £15,000 each to his children Jane, Sarah and Robert, and the residue to the Dennis Potter Children's Settlement.
His wife, Mrs Margaret Amy **Potter**, who died on May 29, left estate valued at £319,012 net. She left £15,000 each to her children Jane, Sarah and Robert, and the residue to the Dennis Potter Children's Settlement.
Lady Joan Tustin **Jackling**, of London NW8, widow of the late Sir Roger W. Jackling, left estate valued at £658,811 net.
Mr Richard Raylton **Joicey**, of Westbourne, West Sussex, artist, left estate valued at £712,987 net.
Mr John Cuthbert Widdrington **Riddell**, of Barrasford, Hexham, Northumberland, for more than 50 years Master of Felton Park and Swinburne Castle, left estate valued at £1,047,126 net.
Sir Brian Smith **Kellett**, of Deddington, Oxfordshire, chairman of Unigate and former chairman of the TI Group and the Port of London Authority, left estate valued at £678,595 net.
Pamela Muriel **Ward**, of London SW3, left estate valued at £873,892 net.
She left £25,500 to personal legatees, £1,000 to St Lukes Parish Church, Chelsea, and her collection of English domestic chattels, including a picture of herself, to form the P.M Ward Collection and be offered to the National Trust for display in one of its houses open to the public, and if accepted then the residue of her estate to them.
Ethel **Miller**, of Haywards Heath, West Sussex, left estate valued at £282,952 net.
She left £5,000 to personal legatees, and the residue to the St Peter and St James Home and Hospice, North Chailley, Lewes.
Mrs Joan Rafferty **Robins**, of Castle End, Deddington, Oxfordshire, for 30 years chief home service adviser to the Gas Council, left estate valued at £117,671 net.

Church news

Resignations and retirements
The Rev Christopher Beaver, Vicar, St Michael and All Angels, Langley (Birmingham): resigned as from October 31.
The Rev Roy Boff, Rector, Romaldkirk w Laithkirk (Ripon): to retire as from November 6.
The Rev Canon David Cawte, Vicar, Cox Green (Oxford): retired as from October 30.
The Rev Canon Margaret Clarke, Assistant Minister, St Michael's, Easthampstead (Oxford): retired as from September 30.
The Rev William Deeth, Vicar, Bothal and Pegswood w Longhirst (Newcastle): retired as from October 3.
The Rev Alan Gales, Vicar, Marley Hill (Durham): to retire as from November 28.
The Rev Dr Mark Glasswell, Rector, Great and Little Sampford (Chelmsford): to retire as from December 31.

Service dinner

London Scottish
The Hon Nicholas Soames, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, and Lieutenant General the Hon Sir William Rous, Quartermaster General, were the guests of honour at the annual Hallowe'en dinner of The London Scottish Regiment held last night at regimental headquarters, Westminster. Colonel J.A. *Clemence, Colonel of the* Regiment, presided. Among the guests were:
The Director General Territorial Army, The General Officer Commanding London District, and the Chairman of the Greater London TAVRA.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. Coltham and Miss D.C. Johnston
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs William Coltham, of Loose, Kent, and Deborah Claire, youngest daughter of Commander and Mrs David Johnston, of Bowdon, Cheshire.

Mr R.A.B. Jenks and Miss N.B. Santillo
The engagement is announced between Benedict, only son of Mr and Mrs Peter Jenks, of London, and Norma, elder daughter of Señor and Señora Gustavo Santillo, of Buenos Aires.

Mr S.M. Leibling and Miss T.A.S. Parkinson
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of David and Jeanette Leibling, of Northwood, Middlesex, and Tracey, eldest daughter of Martyn Parkinson and the late Geraldine Parkinson, and stepdaughter of Sara Parkinson, of Running Waters, County Durham.

Dr I.A. McNeish and Miss G.A.B. Mynors
The engagement is announced between Iain, younger son of Professor and Mrs A.S. McNeish, of Birmingham, and Geraldine, daughter of Mr and Mrs P.L.B. Mynors, of London, W5.

Mr W.T. Paynter Bryant and Miss K.T. Stratford Low
The engagement is announced between William, younger son of Mrs George Menzies, of Palace Court, London, and Kim, daughter of Mrs Juliet Stratford, of Bletchingdon, Oxfordshire, and of the late Colonel Robert Low.

Mr J.D. Simpson and Miss K.M. Roach
The engagement is announced between Jonathan David, elder son of Dr and Mrs L.A. Nathan, of Wallington, Surrey, and Katherine Mary, second daughter of Mr and Mrs M.E. Roach, of Windsor, Berkshire.

Marriage

Mr A. Wakeley and Miss C.F. Barlow
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 29, at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Dinton, Buckinghamshire, of Mr Alexander Wakeley, elder son of Mr and *Mrs Martin Wakeley*, to Miss Camilla Barlow, daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark Barlow.
The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Amanda Sheppard, Melissa Nicholson, Rebecca Nicholson, Jessica McKie, Harry Sheppard and Jack Steel. Mr Alexander Stroud was best man.
A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines
CAPTAIN: P W Hesmington - Exeter in Cmd 25.4.95; R A I McLean - Fearless in Cmd 11.4.95.
SURGEON CAPTAIN: C W Evans - Staff of FO Plymouth 2.5.95.
ACTING CAPTAIN: T A Spires - Staff of 2SL/CNH 17.3.95.
COMMANDER: R W W Craig - COMAW 13.4.95; D R Bogden - MOD Portsmouth 6.1.95; A C Grattan-Cooper - Kyle of Lochalsh 31.1.95; J D Murch - Staff of 2SL/CNH 17.3.95; A J Rix - Glasgow in Cmd 14.3.95; J R Wills - Nelson 10.2.95.
SURGEON COMMANDER: A Yates - RNH Haslar 3.1.95.
LOCAL LIEUTENANT COLONEL: F Haddow - MOD London 16.3.95.
Retirements
COMMODORE: R J Fisher - 7.1.95.
CAPTAIN: P J Cowling - 7.1.95; S A V Van Der Byl - 3.12.94.
SURGEON CAPTAIN: D J Mckay - 3.12.94.
COMMANDER: M P N Sessions - 14.1.95; PJ Tate - 14.1.95; B H Wood - 11.1.95.
CHAPLAIN: P B Martin - 29.10.94.

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

For the God who said, 'Out of darkness light shall shine', has caused his light to shine in our hearts, the light which is knowledge of the glory of God in Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4 : 6 (REB)

BIRTHS

BROCKLEBANK-FOWLER - On 27th October, to Victoria (née Richards) and Timothy, a daughter, Sophie Victoria, a sister to Olivia.

BUSSEY - On October 30th, at The Royal Surrey County Hospital, to Sarah (née Porter) and Stephen, a daughter, Alice Victoria.

CORMICAN-GIELGUD-SPERL - To Brian Cormican and Kate Gielgud-Sperl on October 31st a daughter. A first grandchild for Adam and Penelope Gielgud and for Eddie and Angela Cormican.

CURTIS - On 27th October, to Sarah (née Gibbon) and William, a daughter.

FOGES - On October 22nd in New York City, to Gully (née Wells) and Peter, a son, Alexander Joshua, a brother for Rebecca.

GATHORNE-HARDY - On 25th October, to Philippa (née Heimann) and Ben, a daughter.

GRANT THOROLD - On October 26th, to Nick and Lisa, a son, Edward Martin, a brother for Harry and Emma.

HELY-HUTCHINSON - On 25th October to Kate (née Connolly) and Nick, a daughter, Lily Matilda, a sister for Rosie and Harry.

JEMAL - On October 28th, to Dee (née Gordon) and Adam, a son, James Thomas.

LONSDALE-LEBESGUE - On October 29th in Amsterdam to Sabine and John, a daughter, Olivia Trudi.

MEABY - On 20th October to Alix (née de Monspey) and London, a son, Ludovic, a brother to Valleran.

MERRIAM - On 30th October, to Penelope (née Gidley-Kitchin) and Richard, a son, Tom Hugh Charles, a brother for Georgina and Peter.

MILLIKEN-SMITH - On 26th October to Sybella (née Wilson) and Mark, a son, Samuel Alexander.

OWEN - On October 28th 1994, to Emma (née Cox) and David, a son, Charles Alexander.

PALMER - On 28th October, to Robert and Lucinda (née Barker), a daughter, Alice Harriet, a sister for Charlie.

PARDO - To Cristina and Javier, a son, Jaime.

RAESIDE - On 9th July in Chichester, to Alison (née Powell) and Mark, a beautiful daughter Beatrice a sister to James and Alec.

SIMON - To Mark and Mouse (Alexandra, née Stirrup) a son, Benedict Arthur, on Sunday October 23rd, in New York City.

STEPHENS - On Saturday 29th October at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Jessica (formerly French) the wife of Hugo Stephens, a daughter Cordelia, a sister for James and Henry.

STEWART - On October 30th, to Victoria (née Williams) and Charles, a daughter, Lucy Philippa Vansittart, a sister for Toby and Emma.

STODDART-STONES - On October 5th to Shân (née Swinstead) and Graham, a son, Ben.

WILSON - On October 30th, to Jane (née Ford) and Charles, a daughter, Eloise Kate, a sister for Sophie and Joseph.

DEATHS

BEAVERBROOK - The Dowager Lady Beaverbrook died peacefully after a short illness at Leatherhead, Surrey, on Friday 28th October - a much loved sister and aunt. Cremation Service at 11.15am Thursday 3rd November at Randalls Park Crematorium, Randalls Road, Leatherhead Surrey.

THE TIMES NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
071 782 7272 or fax 071 782 7827

DEATHS

BENNETT - Rev Canon Arthur, died peacefully in hospital on 26th October. Devoted husband of Margarette and father of David, Elizabeth, Kathryn, Jane and Rachel. Funeral Little Munden 2.00pm 3rd November. Family flowers only. Donations for church growth M. Raise, 24 Vanburgh Fields, London SE3 7TZ. "In His presence there is fulness of Joy"

BRAY - On 28th October, peacefully at the Princess Royal Hospital, Diana Alexandra (née Reitzel) wife of the late Peter, loved mother of Sarah and grandmother to Oliver, Patrick, Henrietta and Elizabeth. Private cremation followed by interment of ashes and service of Thanksgiving at East Chiltington Parish Church on Friday 4th November at 2.30 pm.

BROWN - Gertrude Margaret (Peggy) peacefully in her 97th year, beloved aunt and great aunt. First Headmistress The Holt School, Wokingham. Funeral St Richard's Church, Slindon Saturday November 5th 11.00am. Enquiries F.A. Holland & Son, 3 Jubilee Road, Chichester.

BRUCE - Morven-Anne on October 29th at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, dearly loved wife of James Bruce of Balmanno. Cremation private, interment at Culross Abbey Church on 30th November at 3pm. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, to Leukaemia Research Fund, Great Ormond Street, London.

BUDENBERG - On October 29th Cyril Edward, peacefully in his sleep at Tabley House Knutsford aged 89 years, beloved husband of Peggie and father of Margaret, much loved grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral service at Hale United Reformed Church on Friday November 4th at 12.45 pm and afterwards at Walton Lea Crematorium, Warrington. No flowers please, donations, if desired, to Clonter Opera Swettenham Heath, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 2LR. All enquiries to Messrs. Ashton Brookes Funeral Directors, Altrincham. Tel: 061 928 7816

DEATHS

BURNETT - On October 30th 1994, peacefully Rhoda Elizabeth aged 88, widow of Lt Col. G.F. Burnett O.B.E., RM., and dearly loved mother of Robin, Patrick and John and grandmother of Claire, Camilla, Robert, Tessa, Joanna and Helen. Funeral at Framfield Parish Church, at 3pm on Thursday 10th November. Family flowers only.

CHESHIRE - On October 29th Jocelyn, much loved wife of Christopher, beloved mother of Alexandra and adored by three grandchildren, peacefully at home in Spain after 18 years of courageous fight against cancer. Donations, if desired, to Cheshire Homes.

CLIFTON - John Ramsey (Jack) peacefully on 28th October 1994, at his home in Salisbury. Aged 82 years. Late Treasurer of Salisbury District Hospital. Beloved husband and father and grandfather. Funeral service on Monday 7th November 1994, at 12.20pm at Salisbury Crematorium. No flowers please but donations, if desired, for Salisbury Hospice Care Trust, C/o I.N. Newman Ltd, Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 1HL.

CROSSIE - On 30th October 1994, peacefully in hospital Michael much loved husband of Ann, father of Virginia, Belinda and Rupert and grandfather of William, Lucy, Rebecca, Daisy and Victoria. All enquiries to Paul Bysouth & Sons, Crowborough, Sussex. Tel: 0892 655000

DEAN - On October 29th, suddenly in Broadstairs 1 week before his 86th birthday, Frederick Harold C.B., Q.C. loved husband of Mary-Rose, father of Richard and the late Ruth Byron, grandfather of Tabitha, Jude, Douglas and Alison. Enquiries to Twyman & Holmes, Funeral Directors, Ramsgate 0843 852768. Private family cremation. Memorial service to be arranged in Quainton, Bucks. Family flowers only please. If desired, donations to Trinity Hospice, London.

DEATHS

DODSON - On Friday 28th October, peacefully at Chesham Bois, in his 97 year, Thomas Black MBE., (Tommy) husband of March, previously of the late Ruby (Freckles). A gentleman and character, who will be sadly missed by both family and friends. Funeral at The Chiltern Crematorium, Amersham, Bucks on Friday 4th November at 11.am. Flowers to Cooks Funeral Service, 72 Broad Street, Chesham, Bucks.

DRUMMOND - On 29th October, peacefully at The Countess Mountbatten Hospice, Southampton, Bendor Drummond, aged 61, beloved husband of Alba and much loved father of Marina, Bettina, Fiona and Maldwin Marshall. A Service of Remembrance on Monday, 7th November at All Saints', Fawley, Southampton at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Enquiries to Hallums, Fawley (0703) 893729

EGERTON - On 30th October 1994, peacefully at home, after a long illness borne with great courage and dignity Ansell, dear husband of Wendy, much loved father of Bridget and Fabia and grandfather of Harriet, Verity, Jacob, Ngaio and Ottilie. The funeral service takes place at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Thursday 3rd November at 1:00 p.m. Family flowers only. donations, if desired, for St. Michael's Church, Creech St. Michael may be sent to E. White & Sons Ltd., Funeral Directors, 138/139, East Reach, Taunton TA1 3HN.

HARBY - Mary F. on 30th October, peacefully aged 89. Devoted wife of the late George. Loved and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. For Funeral arrangements please phone Dover 202498

HEMP - Peacefully on 26th October, Dulcia, wife of the late Wilfrid Hemp FSA, of Bod Gywarch Criccieth, Gwynedd, in her 92nd year. Funeral Service on Thursday 3rd November 1994 at noon, at St Nicholas' Church, Hatherop, Gloucestershire; family garden flowers only.

HICHENS - On October 29th 1994 at Poltair Hospital, Penzance Rev Thomas Sikes Hichens aged 83 years of Lamorna, Penzance. Formerly Rector of Westerfield, Suffolk, Vicar of Zennor and Towednack, Cornwall, Rector of Stoke Climsland, Cornwall and Chaplain to St. Michael's Mount. Beloved husband of Rachel for 49 years and father of the late Rachel Mary, Elizabeth Esther, Richard Thomas Sikes and Celia Jane, and grandfather of Rachel, Samuel, Anne and Benjamin. Funeral Service at the Parish Church of St Senara, Zennor on Thursday November 3rd at 2.30pm followed by interment. Cut flowers only or donations, in his memory, for Zennor Parish Church or RNIB may be sent to Alfred Smith & Son, Funeral Directors, 31 Clarence Street, Penzance.

HILSON - Lena. Peacefully, on October 27th 1994, Lena Hilson (née Walker) LRCPS (Edin), aged 79. Wife of the late Don Hilson, mother of Andrew and Rosalind, and grandmother of David and Michael.

HUNT - On October 26th, after a long illness courageously borne, Frances Elaine, dearly loved by her sister Joan Platts and by her many friends. Funeral service Tuesday November 8th 3pm at Chichester Crematorium. Family flowers only, but donations may be sent to: Bristol Municipal Charities Guild of The Handicapped Fund, Orchard Street, Bristol.

LYDDON - On 29th October, John Croft, dearly beloved husband of Barbara. Cremation at Surrey & Sussex Crematorium, Worth 11.30am Monday 7th November 1994. Family flowers only, but donations if desired, for St. Catherine's Hospice, Crawley, maybe sent to J & R Matthews, 1 Talbot House, High Street, Cookfield, Sussex. RH17 5JX. No letters please.

McCARTHY - Ida, beloved wife of John for 56 years, and loving mother of Jean. On 26th October peacefully in St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, sadly missed by her many friends and family. Funeral Service at Trinity Church, Sutton, on Thursday 3rd November at 1.45pm, followed by cremation. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, to League of Friends of St. Helier Hospital.

MILLER-JONES - Andrew, died 29th October 1994, wishes to thank Ulla, his late wife Daphne, his family and friends, and colleagues in documentary film, BBC Television and NATO, for an interesting and enjoyable life. Funeral at 4pm on Friday 4th November at Barham Crematorium near Canterbury Kent. No flowers please, but contributions if desired, to the Cancer Day Centre Appeal, William Harvey Hospital, Ashford Kent. Further details Hambrook & Johns. Tel: 0303 266825

MILNER-GULLAND - On October 28th 1994, after a long illness, Laurence Harry aged 86 years, greatly loved by his family and generations of Cumnor House pupils. Funeral private; memorial service to be announced later.

MOUSTACAS - On 31st October at home, Andreas dearly loved husband of Angeliki and much loved father of Katerina and Nicholas. Funeral in Greece.

PARRY - On October 26th 1994, peacefully in Sidney, British Columbia, Joan Brunner Parry (née Buckley) MBE, in her 99th year. Wife of the late Air Vice Marshal R.G. Parry CB., DSO. Will be sadly missed by her daughters Hazel Keith of Quissett Massachusetts and Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands, and Jennifer Chandler of Sidney, British Columbia.

PEARSON - On October 28th, peacefully, Joy much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service on Tuesday 8th November at St. Nicholas Church, Compton, at 2.30 followed by burial. Flowers or donations, if desired, to The Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice, c/o J Gorringe & Son, 55 Hare Lane, Godalming Surrey. GU7 3EF.

PENNYBACKER - Joe, at home on Monday October 31st. Much loved husband of Rosalind and father of Thomas and Kitty. Funeral private.

PESCOD - On October 30th peacefully at home in Winchester, Mary Rose aged 60, beloved wife of Peter. Funeral service at Southampton Crematorium (East Chapel) on Thursday November 3rd at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Wessex Cancer Trust, c/o Jno. Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

FRIDAY - On October 30th, after a short illness Jane, (née Bland) much loved wife of Tony and mother of the late Alison Garrett. Service at West London Crematorium, Kensal Green, at 3.10pm Monday 7th November. Flowers and enquiries to J.H. Kenyon, Tel: 071-937 0757.

READING - Kathleen, on October 28th peacefully in her sleep, dearly loved wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral on November 7th, at 11.30am at St. Thomas More Church, Seaford, followed by family cremation. Flowers to Seaford Funeral Service.

SCOTT - James. Beloved husband of Dame Thora Hird and father of Janette Scott Rademaekers, grandfather of Daisy and James Torme passed away peacefully in the earlier hours 30th October. Funeral to be held at Small Chapel Central Hall Westminster 2pm Friday November 4th. Family flowers only.

SERGEANT - On 30th October 1994, peacefully at home, Bertha Violet (née Buck) aged 88. Much loved mother of Howard and Graham. Funeral Service to be held at 11.am on Friday 4th November at St. John the Baptist, Wood Street, Barnet. Flowers c/o Clark & Son, 105 Wood Street, Barnet.

SHEFFIELD - On October 28th 1994, after a short illness, Mary Patience Vere, Widow of Major - General John Sheffield, CB, CBE, and beloved mother of Belinda, Richard and the late John Mulgrave. Funeral private. No flowers but donations, if desired, may be sent to North Hampshire Hospital, Intensive Care Unit, Basingstoke. Service of Thanksgiving to be announced later.

TAFFINDER - Rosemary. On 27th October, aged 76. Dearly loved mother of Michael, Jane, Clare and Simon. Private Cremation on 3rd November. Thanksgiving Service in Bibury Church at 2.00pm on Friday 11th November. Donations if desired to Cirencester Hospital (Cole Ward), C/O Norman Trotman & Hughes, Walton House Barn, Northleach, Glos. GL54 3HX.

THOMAS - On 29th October 1994, peacefully at home after a long illness surrounded by the love and support of her family, Marilyn Frances Trick Thomas, wife of Noel, mother of Elizabeth, Kathryn and Sarah, grandmother of Rebecca, Jemima and Jacob. Loved and dearly missed by all. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Hampton, Middlesex Monday 7th November 1994, at 12.30pm. Flowers to G.S. Keates, Funeral Directors, 49 High Street, Hampton Hill, Middlesex or if preferred donations to The Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, Surrey.

WEBER - On October 28th 1994, peacefully in Dorchester Hospital, Jane, beloved widow of Dick and mother of Jeremy, George and Emily. Funeral Service at St Mary's, Frampton, Dorchester at 2.00pm on Friday 4th November. Family flowers only, but donations, if wished to International Red Cross.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

JOCKELSON - Myra Katie Jockelson, formerly Myra Katie Chigarovich, died on 25th October 1994, after a long illness. There will be a Memorial gathering to celebrate her life, which will be held in the New Year. Friends and family will be advised of the time and the place of the Memorial gathering in due course.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

HOY - Amelia Anne & William Roberts. With love for all the years. From R.J.C.P.

WALLIS - Richard - A.F. O.B.E. In loving memory of my darling husband, who died on 1st November 1993. R.I.P. Yvonne.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

PARISH - The Thanksgiving Service for the life of Michael Woodbine Parish, will be held at Holy Trinity Brompton on Tuesday 15th November at 3pm.

BIRTHDAYS

BELINDA. Dale Bergess. Hope you had a nice birthday yesterday. Please contact. Love Guy Pavion. [illegible]

TG Moss with love on her 21st birthday from Mum and Dad, relatives and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS

PATRICK [illegible]

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BATTERSEA [illegible]

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OBITUARIES

ADMIRAL SIR JOHN HAMILTON

Admiral Sir John Hamilton, GBE, CB, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, 1964-67, died on October 27 aged 84. He was born on July 12, 1910.

JOHN HAMILTON was the last naval officer to hold the title of Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean. The hauling down of his flag in June 1967 marked the end of an era of intermittent British maritime dominance that had endured for over two centuries. In the mid-1960s the Mediterranean Fleet was suffering from the priorities then accorded by British policy to operations East of Suez, such as the treaty obligations under Seato, the Anglo-Malaysian Defence Agreement and the ten-year blockade of Rhodesian oil by a patrol of frigates and destroyers off the Mozambique port of Beira.

The resultant force levels did not justify a British fleet commander exercising the role of C-in-C Allied Forces Mediterranean. Hamilton's lengthy tenure of nearly four years was extended by the somewhat tortuous negotiations which groped towards a new regional command structure for Nato. This had to recognise American military power in the post of Allied C-in-C Southern Region held by a US admiral based at Naples and commanding all military forces, as well as the establishment of a subordinate Nato command in the US Sixth Fleet. It also needed to recognise Italian geographical interests by the allocation of maritime command under the C-in-C to an Italian admiral.

The region has always embodied Nato's most demanding and intricate political challenges, bounded as it is by the Middle East and the North African littorals and containing a number of more or less serious internal tensions between the alliance's member nations. Hamilton's energetic and genial personality, combining personal charm with acute political sense, was invaluable in maintaining cohesion and warm relations between Nato naval authorities during this period. Even the amusing after-dinner games of skill that he and his wife introduced to their many multi-national guests made a substantial contribution towards breaking down the barriers of reserve, personal dignity and language.

John Graham Hamilton joined the Royal Navy at Dartmouth in 1924 and first went to sea in 1928. By 1934 he was the second-in-command of the destroyer *Ardent*, then qualifying as a gunnery specialist at the gunnery school, *HMS Excellent*, in 1936.

At the outbreak of war, he was on the staff of the gunnery school in the anti-aircraft gunnery section, an area of warfare in which the navy was swiftly shown to be highly deficient. Extensive programmes to fit not only warships but merchant shipping with light quick-firing guns led to a vast training requirement in what was known as "eyeshooting skill" using films, pocket guides and a device called the Dome Trainer. This comprised a false sky erected in such buildings as squash courts, against the inside of which enemy aircraft could be projected and tracked by the trainee with a gun mounting. Hamilton, as Training Development Officer, headed these projects, even writing the film scripts, and his starring role in the finished product caused him to be known as the "gunnery officer with the golden voice".

These experiences naturally led to Hamilton joining, as Fleet AA Gunnery Officer, the talented and extraordinarily successful body of staff officers who surrounded Admiral Andrew Cunningham in the battleship *Warspite* during the Mediterranean campaign of 1940 and 1941. He was mentioned in dispatches for his work.

Promoted commander in 1943, he



was appointed to the Admiralty for two years, subsequently rejoining the front line in South-East Asia and ending up in Japan in 1946 as part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force. After two years in command of the Black Swan class frigate *Alacrity*, also in the Far East, he was promoted captain in 1949. There followed two further tours in the Admiralty and command of the Fifth Destroyer Squadron.

In 1956 he returned to the Far East Fleet in command of the cruiser *Newfoundland*, deploying to the Red Sea in support of the Suez invasion by British and French forces in the autumn of that year. Operations included the sinking of an Egyptian frigate, the *Domiat*, in a brisk night action and earned Hamilton a second mention in dispatches. He was appointed CBE and promoted rear-admiral in 1958, joining the Admiralty as Naval Secretary to the First Lord.

His next tour was at sea as Flag Officer Flotillas, Home Fleet, responsible for the operational effectiveness of all ships except aircraft carriers. Unhappy with the established flagship, the depot ship *Tyne*, because she could not keep up with the fleet, he transferred to the cruiser *Bermuda*, allowing a more hands-on approach. This approach also included a strong belief that his naval ratings would benefit from sharing his passion for hill walking — Hamilton (like John Smith after him) having captured a sizeable number of the "Munros" in Scotland. The sailors' view of being encouraged to join him in this endeavour is not recorded.

Promoted vice-admiral in 1961, Hamilton was particularly delighted with his next appointment as Flag Office Naval Air Command based at Lee on Solent where, as a stranger to the Fleet Air Arm, he became enthusiastically involved with the courageous and optimistic spirit of this generally youthful branch of the Navy. This tour was shortened by his final appointment to Malta.

Created KBE in 1963 and advanced to GBE in 1966, John Hamilton retired as a full admiral in 1967. From 1968 to 1975 he was successively director general and national president of the Institute of Marketing. A particularly devout and committed Christian he was a patron of the Dorset Expeditionary Society, a charity which arranges experience in remote places for young people.

He is survived by his wife Dorothy whom he married in 1938. There were no children.

JEROME WIESNER

Jerome Wiesner, former science adviser to President John F. Kennedy, died at Watertown, Massachusetts, on October 21 aged 79. He was born in Dearborn, Michigan, on May 30, 1915.



AS ONE of the principal architects of the 1963 nuclear test ban treaty, signed by Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union, Jerome Wiesner took the first steps towards curbing the nuclear arms race — a subject which was to become his major preoccupation in later years. It was not always so. Early in his career he had worked at Los Alamos on components used in the atomic bomb tests at Bikini Atoll in 1946, and in 1957, as staff director of a presidential committee on military policy, he had argued fervently for developing and manufacturing ballistic missiles.

The son of a shopkeeper, Jerome Bert Wiesner had shown a precocious flair for technology while still a boy, and in his teens set up a private telephone network to communicate with his friends. In 1942, after the entry of the United States into the Second World War, he joined the staff of the radiation laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and soon became head of Project Cadillac which was concerned with the development of airborne radar.

For the next decade Wiesner worked as a professor at MIT, becoming head of the university's electronics research laboratory, an acknowledged authority on microwave theory, and an analyst of military technology.

After helping President Kennedy in his 1960 campaign, his reward was appointment to the post of special assistant to the President for science and technology, and he became an influential figure in the Kennedy White House.

Wiesner's task was to work out a sensible public policy for the increasingly complex inter-relationship between government and science, but his work on the nuclear test ban treaty also drew him into the realms of diplomacy. It is probable that his suggestion to a high-ranking Soviet official, Yevgeny Fyodorov, that Washington and Moscow could compromise on the number of on-site inspections to be held each year, led directly to Nikita Khrushchev's message to Kennedy that "we are ready to meet you half-way". The agreement was reached soon afterwards. It was during his tenure that the decision was taken to land an American astronaut on the Moon, but Wiesner was one of those opposed to the landing method that was eventually used.

On his retirement from the White House staff early in the Johnson Administration, Wiesner returned to MIT, first as dean of the School of Science and then as president of the Institute. In this role he did much to expand the university's instruction and research in the humanities, including the social sciences and the fine arts, and also put emphasis on the application of science and engineering to housing, healthcare, mass transportation and urban blight.

As a founding member of the International Foundation for the Survival and Development of Humanity, he joined the Nobel Peace Prize-winner Andrei Sakharov and other leading American and Soviet scientists in outspoken opposition to the nuclear arms race. "If the United States doubles the number of nuclear weapons and delivery systems, the USSR does the same," he said in a 1981 interview. "If we develop a new weapon, they do, too. We desperately need to break this cycle of escalation before it becomes totally unmanageable."

In 1993, in collaboration with two other MIT scientists, Wiesner called for deep cuts in American military procurement and expenditure in a booklet, *Beyond the Looking Glass*.

Jerome Wiesner, who suffered a stroke several years ago but had largely recovered his ability to speak and walk, is survived by his wife Laya, three sons and one daughter.

RABBI SHLOMO GOREN

Rabbi Shlomo Goren, first Chief Chaplain of the Israel Defence Forces and later Chief Rabbi of Israel, died in a Tel Aviv hospital aged 77 on October 29. He was born in Zambrov, Poland, in 1917.

SHLOMO GOREN was a man cast in the mould of the biblical warrior-priests. The rabbi with the rasping voice may have been small in size, but he earned great stature as both a courageous soldier and an acknowledged giant in religious knowledge and teaching. He was a colourful, charismatic and controversial figure who continued to command national attention up to the day he died.

Goren, formerly Goronchik, was born into a pious and learned Polish home. But his devoutly religious parents were no less devoted to the Land of Israel, and the family emigrated to Palestine when Shlomo was barely seven years old, settling eventually in Jerusalem, where their young son attended the famous Hebron yeshiva, or religious seminary. His aptitude and abilities in religious study quickly became apparent and he published the first of his many books and interpretations on the Halacha, Jewish religious law, when he was just 17.

The following year he began studies in physics, philosophy and Greek culture at the Hebrew University. By then he had also joined the Haganah, the underground Jewish army, but later moved into the ranks of the more radical Lehi (Freedom Fighters of Israel) also known as the Stern Gang, who used the young rabbi's house as a weapons store and a safe haven for Lehi members on the run from British military police.

During Israel's War of Independence in 1948 Goren fought in the Jerusalem area, where he became a skilled sniper. At the same time local rabbis and army commanders were turning to Goren for advice and direction on a host of questions concerning religious observance in time of war. With the establishment of the State and the formation of the Israel Defence Force it was hardly surprising that the country's then Chief Rabbis recommended to Israel's



Goren as Chief Chaplain of Israel's forces

Prime Minister and Defence Minister, David Ben-Gurion, that Shlomo Goren be appointed as first Chief Chaplain of the IDF.

So began more than two decades of close association between Rabbi Goren and Israel's young fighting men, during which he organised the military chaplaincy and was instrumental in adjusting halachic observance to the needs of military life. He fought vigorously and successfully against religious clerics and politicians who sought to have separate military units for religious observant Jews and those who were non-observant. He argued that this was neither necessary nor practical.

Goren accompanied troops into battle during both the Sinai Campaign of 1956 and the Six Day War of 1967, and the bravery of the small, bespectacled and bearded rabbi became a legend. On more than one occasion he crossed behind enemy lines to retrieve the bodies of fallen soldiers and bring them home to Israel for burial.

Years later, in 1981, he risked his life once again to ensure that the bones of Jewish warriors from the time of the revolt against the Romans in 135 AD were all recovered from caves near the Dead Sea, for reburial in a state funeral. Goren, then the 64-year old Chief Rabbi of Israel, had himself lowered by winch from an air force helicopter in order to reach the caves, located in a sheer rock face high above the barren desert.

Goren retired from the army soon after the Six Day War and became Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv in 1968. In 1972 he became Ashkenazi (Western) Chief Rabbi of Israel, alongside Ovadia Yosef, who was Chief Rabbi of Israel's Sephardi (Oriental) community. The two men did not get along, and during Goren's ten-year tenure there were bitter arguments and public denunciations between the two regarding the halachic interpretations of each other. Rabbi Goren was a strictly observant Jew but a man with an understanding of the concerns and needs of modern society, and as in the army, so too in civilian life he sought to match halachic observance and rulings to modern times. This not only led him into frequent disputes with his Sephardi colleague, but earned him virtual excommunication by the fanatic Haredi ultra-orthodox community.

In 1980 Goren also clashed with Britain's Chief Rabbi, Immanuel Jakobovits, when he unleashed a vituperative attack on him, claiming that Jakobovits had publicly given his support to the establishment of a Palestinian state. "I call upon the rabbis of the world and the Jews of Great Britain ... to spew this dangerous man from our midst", Goren declared. In the face of this onslaught the British Chief Rabbi mildly pointed out that the Egyptian paper *Al Ahram* had quoted private remarks totally out of context and that he had merely envisaged "some sort of Palestinian entity" at some point in the future.

Goren's love of his religion and of the Land of Israel was paramount. He ruled that most of Sinai and all of the Golan Heights were never part of the Land of Israel and could be returned to Egypt and Syria. But he bitterly protested against the decision to return the town of Yamit and the surrounding settlements in northern Sinai, saying they were included in the biblical land, and was harshly outspoken in his condemnation of Israel's agreement with the PLO, seeing this as the forerunner of a total handover of Judaea and Samaria to the Palestinians. "The Land of Israel should not be divided and maintaining its totality under Jewish sovereignty is a Halachic precept of the first order," he said.

He caused a storm of public controversy earlier this year when he declared that he would "announce a holiday and give his support to any Jew who would kill the murderer Yassir Arafat, the Hitler of our times." No less controversial was his call on soldiers to refuse to obey any order they might receive to evacuate Jewish settlements from the West Bank, the biblical lands of Judaea and Samaria.

Shlomo Goren is survived by his wife Tsafia, a son and two daughters.

PROFESSOR WALTER RUSSELL

Professor Walter Russell, CMG, soil scientist, died on October 22 aged 89. He was born on October 27, 1904.

IN THE international world of soil science, Walter Russell was widely known and respected for his practical application of soil physics to the field problems of agriculture. First at Oxford and then at Reading he encouraged two generations of both undergraduates and postgraduates to achieve practical results in the application of physics to soil management while adhering firmly to good science.

In Europe he was actively involved in organised scientific liaison with both French and Spanish research academies. In East Africa he demonstrated skill in securing co-operation and support from legislators and administrators as well as from scientists.

Educated at Arundel and Cambridge, Walter Russell joined Bernard Keen in the physics division of the Rothamsted experimental station in 1930. Studies of the need for cultivation and its effects in different soils were extended during the war years. Russell carried out trials and demonstrations throughout Britain on methods to save tractor fuel and to increase crop yields.

In 1948 he was appointed Reader in Soil Science at Oxford University. Here he undertook the formidable task of revising and rewriting the classic work *Soil Conditions and Plant Growth* published in several editions by his father, Sir John Russell.

In 1955 Walter Russell became director of the East African Agriculture and Forestry Research Organisation which fielded strong teams of Colonial Service scientists in support of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika research efforts. His work was recognised by his appointment as CMG in 1960.

Returning to the UK in 1964, Walter Russell was appointed to the Chair of Soil Science at Reading University. Fellowships of the Institute of Physics, the Institute of Biology and the Institute of Agricultural Engineering demonstrated the range of his active interests in the scientific improvement of agriculture.

Walter Russell married Margaret, daughter of Sir Hugh Calthrop Webster, in 1933. She predeceased him and he is survived by a son and two daughters.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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anti-mental health act 1983
greatly interested in prisoners rights and civil liberties.
Needs to be a first rate advocate with good barrister/chamber connections.
Jewish connections favoured but not necessary.
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YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE club and school (18-60 age group). Tel: 071-373 1665

WANTED

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BIGGEST BRITISH WARSHIP.

FEATURES OF H.M.S. HOOD.

(By our Naval Correspondent)

Since the days when the Dreadnought was in building, no greater interest has been aroused about the design of any ship of war than about that of the Hood. She is the latest British capital ship to be completed. Whether rightly described as a battleship or a battle-cruiser, she partakes of the characteristics of both types, and may be said to combine all the qualities and attributes which war experience showed to be desirable, so far as this is possible in one vessel.

The new vessel was originally one of a class of four, all named after British admirals, but after the armistice the contracts for the Anson, Howe, and Rodney, which were not so far advanced, were abandoned, so that the Hood is the sole representative of her type.

It is interesting to note that the Hood is the first capital ship in the British—and probably in any—Navy to be built since the Battle of Jutland was fought on May 31, 1916. Since the building of the Dreadnought, the course of British naval construction, so far as the capital ship is concerned, has taken two distinct directions, that of the battleship and that of the battle-cruiser. In the former, weight of metal was considered to be the primary factor; in the latter, speed was considered to be of relatively more importance; but in both classes the one-gun principle was paramount. The last completed representatives of the two types were the Royal Sovereign and the Renown.

The main armament of the Hood consists of eight 15in. guns, mounted in four gun-houses *en barbette*, two pairs forward and two aft. The disposition, indeed, is the same as in the Royal Sovereign and Queen Elizabeth, which also have eight 15in. guns. The Renown class have only six 15in. guns in three turrets. The gun-houses are protected by armour of a maximum thickness of 15in., reduced in places to 11in., and there is 12 in. armour on the barbettes. The main armament is thus afforded better protection than in the Hood's predecessors, which had 11in. armour, and in this respect there is reflected the greater importance attached to this feature since the Battle of Jutland.

The secondary battery consists of 12 5.5in. guns, as compared with 17 4in. guns in the Renown, and the 14 6in. guns in the Royal Sovereign. The gun mounted is a new weapon, now adopted for the first time in a capital ship. It is of 50 calibres, with a length of 23ft. 8½in. or nearly half as long as the 15in. guns, and throws a projectile weighing 82lb., the weight of the charge used being 23½ lb. The gun itself weight 6 tons, 4cwt. and develops a muzzle energy of 4,520 foot tons, with a velocity of 2,950 foot seconds. It will penetrate 4.2in of hard steel plate at 5,000 yards. These 5.5in. guns in the secondary battery are mounted in a casemate, as in the Royal Sovereign, and not disposed in groups on the superstructure as in the Renown. Moreover, the guns are behind 5in. armour.

Complete details of the armoured protection have not yet been afforded, but the Hood has an armoured belt at the waterline of 12in. tapering to 6in. and 5in., and completed at the ends by a 1in. armoured deck forward and a 3in. deck aft. Above this main armour belt is a somewhat shorter one of 7in. maximum thickness, the main deck being 1.5in. thick on the flat and 2in. on the slope. The casemate, as already stated, is protected by 5in. armour, and the forecastle deck has 2in. armour amidships. The conning tower of the Hood is better protected than in either the Royal Sovereign or Renown.

ON THIS DAY

November 1 1919

The mighty Hood *came to an apocalyptic end in May 1941 when, in an encounter with the German ships* Bismarck *and* Prinz Eugen, *her inadequate deck armour was penetrated by shellfire: she blew up and sank in a few minutes: of her crew of 95 officers and 1,324 men, only three survived.*

THE TIMES TODAY TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1 1994

NEWS

Benn pledges to publish details

■ Tony Benn vowed to defy the Commons and publish details of the privileges committee's cash-for-questions inquiry as Conservative MPs mobilised to reject a Labour call for it to sit in public.

The Commons defeated by 301 votes to 264 a motion proposed by John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, ordering the committee to sit in public except when for "clear and compelling" reasons, especially for reasons of natural justice, the press and public be excluded ..... Pages 1, 8

Brittan swallows pride to accept EC job

■ Sir Leon Brittan swallowed his dented pride and accepted a job in the new European Commission headed by Jacques Santer. He announced his decision after a meeting with Mr Santer, the Commission President..... Pages 1, 14

Hostages threatened

A Kashmiri Islamic group threatened to behead three Britons taken hostage in central Delhi unless ten jailed militants were released by India ..... Page 1

Rich get richer

Britain's company bosses are flocking to join the million pound pay club, while wage rises in the rest of the country remain subdued ..... Page 1

FA backs Venables

The Football Association was standing by Terry Venables, despite new allegations about how the England coach raised a £1 million loan for his joint bid for Tottenham Hotspur with Alan Sugar in 1991 ..... Page 2

Bullies convicted

Three schoolboy bullies were told that they faced lengthy custodial sentences after being convicted of a brutal assault on a fellow pupil ..... Page 3

Judge defended

Retired judges have leapt to the defence of the late and infamous Mr Justice Melford Stevenson after a former Court of Appeal judge described him as the worst since the war ..... Page 5

Sinn Fein talks

The Government's exploratory talks with Sinn Fein may be delayed, after an increase in IRA punishment beatings and reports of dummy attacks ..... Page 6

Bosnia concern

Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, started talks with his American counterpart, William Perry, to discuss renewed fighting in Bosnia ..... Page 15

Action urged

Urgent action to safeguard the credibility of vocational qualifications is required, inspectors said ..... Page 7

Royal Mail sell-off

Labour called upon Michael Heseltine to admit defeat in his battle to win Tory backing for a sell-off of the Royal Mail ..... Page 8

Congressional bid

Dan Rostenkowski, a former ally of President Clinton, is running for re-election to Congress in Chicago, despite facing 17 criminal charges of fraud and embezzlement ..... Page 10

Revenge grows

The latest victim of the ill winds of tribalism that still blow through Rwanda arrived at the field surgical unit of 23 Parachute Field Ambulance in Kagemi, a symbol of the growing lawlessness and revenge ..... Page 12

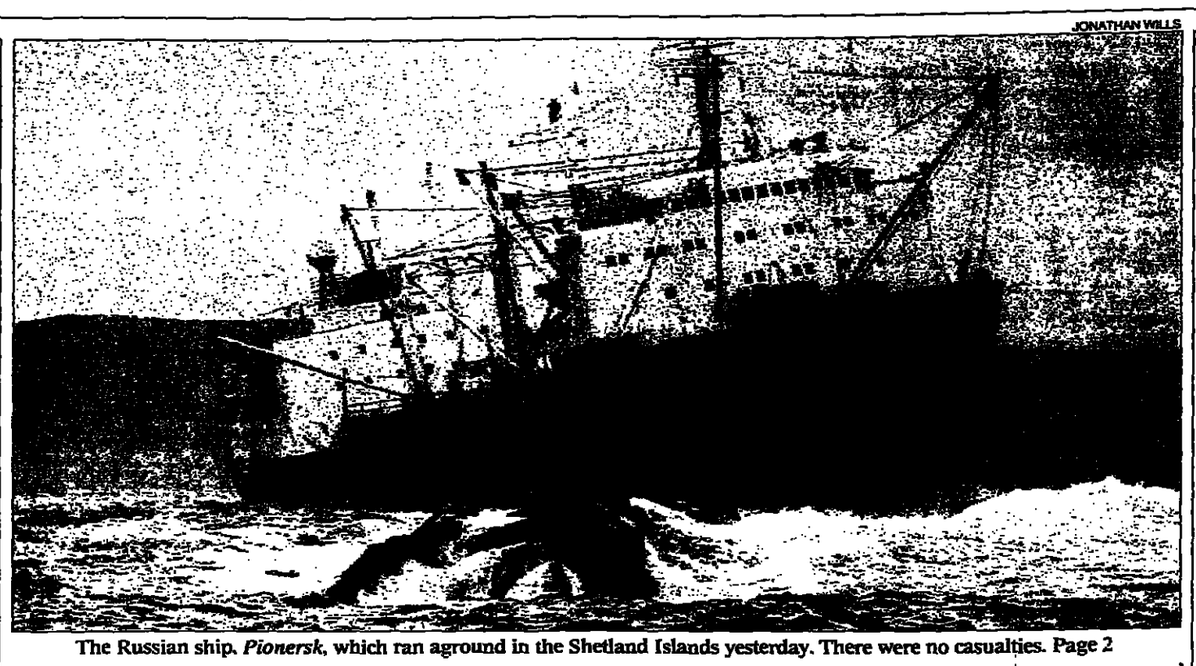
Suspicions allayed

The Duke of Edinburgh spoke of his experiences of the evils of anti-Semitism and his mother's brave stand against Nazi persecution allaying Israeli suspicions about alleged pro-Arab sympathies of British royalty ..... Page 12

Space 'invasion' alarms Americans

■ Hundreds of callers across America responded to a fake news broadcast showing the earth being bombarded by meteorites. The CBS television network's Sunday night film, *Without Warning*, confused viewers by showing "live" reports of F16 figher jets scrambling into the skies to fire nuclear missiles at incoming asteroids ..... Page 14

JONATHAN WILLS



The Russian ship, *Pionersk*, which ran aground in the Shetland Islands yesterday. There were no casualties. Page 2

BUSINESS

Electricity: John Astall, 44, the finance director of Manweb, resigned without compensation. A statement from the electricity distributor said he would be leaving by mutual agreement ..... Page 23

Economy: Nervousness that another rise in interest rates may be decided at the meeting between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England was heightened by figures showing another increase in money supply and signs of rising prices in manufacturing ..... Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 13.6 to 3097.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 80.7 to 81.0 after a rie from $1.6236 to $1.6306 and from DM2.4508 to DM2.4576 ..... Page 26

SPORT

Cricket: Graeme Hick showed formidable form for England against Western Australia in Perth, scoring 172 in a little under five hours from 243 balls ..... Page 44

Football: Kevin Keegan, Newcastle United manager, said he would not take a gamble on playing Andy Cole in the Uefa Cup second round, second leg match against Athletic Bilbao ..... Page 41

Golf: A season of many memories on the European tour was dominated by the return to form of Severiano Ballesteros ..... Page 42

Rugby union: Jack Rowell, the England manager, has reversed the ban on players appearing for their clubs in advance of the international match against Romania ..... Page 44

FEATURES

Perfect recipe: Olive oil, lemon juice and garlic, says Robert Carrier, are all you need for a long life. However, he and Marguerite Patten have made a good living out of extra ingredients ..... Page 16

Thrice blessed: Scotland's Cardinal says he is "a wee bit middle of the road, a wee bit left and sometimes a wee bit right". Others call him a maverick ..... Page 16

LAW

Judge not: Should there be a statutory procedure for ageing or ill judges to be checked for continued service? ..... Page 35

Bar none: If the Crown Prosecution Service is privatised, the consequences for barristers could be very serious ..... Page 37

ARTS

Dobson reassessed: Before Henry Moore came along, Frank Dobson was widely regarded as Britain's leading sculptor. Now, with new exhibitions of his work in Leeds and London, his reputation is rising again ..... Page 31

Beethoven refreshed: Nikolaus Harnoncourt, pioneer of period instruments, has begun a revelatory cycle of Beethoven symphonies with the Philharmonia Orchestra ..... Page 32

Shakespeare spiced up: With a heavy accent on homosexuality and a set that looks like the underside of a concrete flyover, the Düsseldorf production of *Romeo and Juliet* that opens in the Barbican will certainly not be the last word in authenticity ..... Page 33

Odessa rank and file: While other orchestras of the former Soviet Union struggle to survive, the Odessa Philharmonic is flourishing under its young American conductor ..... Page 32

BODY AND MIND

Fortune's hand: Left-handed people are more likely to have a good eye for the ball, but there are disadvantages, says Dr Thomas Stuttaford ..... Page 17

Throwbacks: The fact that our bodies and minds are adapted to maximise the reproductive success of a Palaeolithic nomad may cause problems in the modern world ..... Page 17



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **WELL SUITED**
Iain R. Webb on this season's must-have fashion item, the velvet trouser suit (left)

■ **FLOOR SHOW**
Alan Coren looks under the carpet and finds his lino is the stuff of history

TV LISTINGS

Former policeman John Stalker turns detective to reopen the case of Hilda Murrell, murdered ten years ago. *Network First* (ITV, 10.40pm) ..... Page 43

OPINION

Nato irresolution

The increasingly bitter argument between Nato and the United Nations over the uses of air power in Bosnia has been increasingly ignored. But after two months of negotiation, it has not been resolved ..... Page 19

Pause for thought

What should be obvious to parliamentarians is that self-regulation is no longer enough ..... Page 19

Light in the dark

In All Saints and All Souls the light of Easter breaks on the dark November night ..... Page 19

COLUMNS

ALAN CLARK
Britain's military reputation is unlikely to be enhanced by inter-operability with France ..... Page 18

BERNARD LEVIN
Of course Mr Grant of Sun Life is right to say that he can't "take some policy-holders' money and give it to others who deserve compensation". But Levin, always ready to help, has got the answer ..... Page 18

PETER RIDDELL
Tony Benn challenged the Westminster club with a defiance that took us back 200 years to the ... original battles to report the proceedings of Parliament ..... Page 9

OBITUARIES

Admiral Sir John Hamilton, former Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean; **Rabbi Shlomo Goren**, former Israeli Chief Rabbi; **Jerome Wiesner**, science adviser to President Kennedy; **Professor Walter Russell**, scientist ..... Page 21

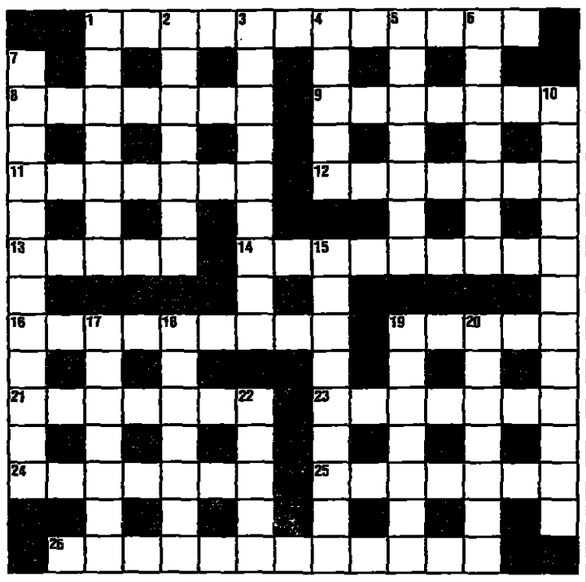
LETTERS

Roads versus rail: comments on the report by the royal commission ..... Page 19

DIARY

It is worth pondering that 95 per cent of Hong Kong's residents would already be citizens of the People's Republic if Britain had never set flag on this rock; some 60 per cent were actually born on the mainland. — *The New York Times*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,688



ACROSS

1 Road design is thrown into confusion (12).
8 Preserves a healing influence in German city (7).
9 Disreputable service pilot, for example (7).
11 A Continental patent can be ambiguous (7).
12 Going about dressed in.....(7).
13 ....coal, originally abandoned when split (5).
14 Advances in alternative form of weapons (9).
16 Kind of garden centre in Carmarthen, supported by the corporation (9).
19 Holy man recovered from sad humiliation (5).
21 I attack elements of a religion (7).
23 Group member is first to show a sign of mourning (7).
24 A French dish — new variant — not quite cooked (7).
25 Senior officer has to accompany this figure (7).
26 Fashion — the sort to succeed (4,3,5).

DOWN

1 Sudden collapse of young lady presented with money in a church (7).
2 Prominent foreigner in a way (7).
3 Perhaps a bit of relaxation outside school (9).
4 Missile used in battle — or war, possibly (5).
5 Fuel which is fashionable to burn (7).
6 Brings out legal point supporting judge's conclusion (7).
7 Clear declaration under George IV for self-denial (12).
10 Drunk, and giving the impression of being bombastic (4-8).
15 Hurry up — move forward! (4,5).
17 Country-born countess in Illyria (7).
18 Deep regret felt about Rome's disintegration (7).
19 Abnormal traumas for a tropical island (7).
20 Trail horse, kept by rising composer, died (7).
22 A certainty for many on edge (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,687

O	V	E	R	B	A	L	A	N	C	E	S			
R		A		O		O		S		C		Y		
D	I	V	E	R	S	I	O	N		H	O	R	S	E
E		E		O		N		S		E		A		
R	E	S	U	M	E	.	H	E	B	R	I	D	E	S
L		E		N		I		T						
Y	A	C	H	T	S		A	S	S	E	M	B	L	Y
		H		E		A		E		V		L		
S	H	A	M	R	O	C	K		R	E	P	E	N	T
A		P		C		R				R				
C	A	L	Y	P	S	O	S		A	G	E	N	D	A
R		A		L		I		R		A		P		
E	V	I	T	A		A	G	R	E	E	A	B	L	E
D		N		D		I		E		O		Z		
		U	N	R	E	A	S	O	N	A	B	L	E	

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake Distrct	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S File/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	735
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Heathrow 17C (63F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Cardiff 1.71in, highest sunshine: Tiree, Hebrides 2.6hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a lot of dry, bright weather with sunshine at times. However, there will be a few showers in the west and north of Wales and northern England, mostly in the morning.

Northern Ireland will be dry. The morning should be sunny but it will turn cloudier later on.

Much of Scotland will be dry with sunshine at times, although there will be showers, mostly in the morning and early afternoon. In northeastern areas and Orkney and Shetland there could be heavy showers.

Less windy than yesterday.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, SW England, E Anglia, Midlands, Channel Is:** dry, bright. Sunny at times. Wind moderate westerly, becoming light southerly. Fresher Max 13C (55F).

☐ **E, Cent N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** sunny at times. A few morning showers. Wind strong westerly, becoming light southerly. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Wales, NW England, Lake District, IoM, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** early showers, then dry and bright. Wind strong westerly, becoming light southerly. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** some sunshine but heavy showers. Drier later. Wind strong to gale northwesterly, becoming light southwesterly in the evening. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Argyll, NW Scotland:** sunny at times. A few showers, especially in morning. Wind fresh northwesterly, becoming southerly. Max 12C (52F).

☐ **N Ireland:** dry. Sunny for a while, cloudier later. Wind fresh westerly, becoming moderate southerly. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Outlook:** dry and bright at first but turning changeable with rain at times.

AROUND BRITAIN

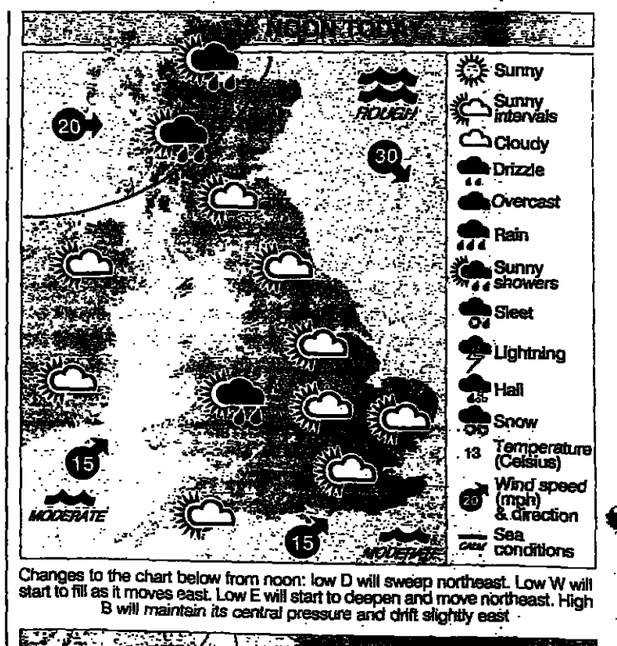
24 hrs to 6 pm: t=thunder; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud, r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.4	0.21	11	52	r	Liverpool	1.0	0.36	14	57	b
Anglesey	0.4	0.21	13	57	c	London	-	0.76	16	61	r
Aspatria	0.2	0.43	12	54	r	Lowestoft	0.5	0.24	15	59	r
Aviemore	-	0.07	7	45	r	Manchester	0.6	0.31	14	57	c
Belfast	0.5	0.36	12	54	sh	Margate	X	0.40	16	61	r
Birmingham	0.3	0.42	14	57	r	Minehead	-	0.83	16	61	r
Bognor R	-	0.65	15	59	r	Morecambe	0.3	0.28	13	55	du
Bournem'th	-	0.88	15	59	r	Newcastle	-	0.14	13	55	r
Bristol	-	1.26	15	59	r	Norwich	0.4	0.29	16	61	c
Buxton	1.6	0.50	12	54	r	Nottingham	0.2	0.33	14	57	r
Cardiff	-	1.71	14	57	r	Oxford	-	0.66	15	59	r
Clacton	-	0.54	14	57	r	Penzance	-	0.94	15	59	r
Cleethorpes	X					Plymouth	-	1.06	14	57	r
Colwyn Bay	2.0	0.22	15	59	c	Poole	-	0.91	15	59	r
Cromer	0.3	0.31	15	59	r	Prestatyn	X	0.20	15	59	c
Doncaster	0.6	0.20	15	59	r	Ross-o-wye	-	0.50	15	59	r
Dunbar	X					Ryde	X				
Eastbourne	-	0.81	15	59	r	Salcombe	-	1.15	15	59	r
Edinburgh	-	0.06	11	52	r	Sandown	-	0.61	15	59	r
Eskdalemuir	-	0.27	10	50	r	Saunton Snd	-	0.97	15	59	r
Exmouth	-	0.74	15	59	r	Scarboro'	-	0.13	13	55	du
Falmouth	X	1.38	14	57	r	Scilly Isles	-	0.57	14	57	r
Fishguard	-	0.83	13	55	r	Shanklin	-	0.71	15	59	r
Folkestone	-	0.60	15	59	r	Shrewsbury	0.3	0.39	14	57	r
Glasgow	-	0.17	12	54	r	Skegness	-	0.29	10	50	du
Guernsey	-	0.40	15	59	r	Southend	-	0.54	16	61	r
Hastings	-	0.65	15	59	r	Southport	0.7	0.33	14	57	c
Hayling I	X					Southsea	-	0.71	15	59	r
Herne Bay	-	0.40	16	61	r	Stornoway	1.9	0.09	11	52	sh
Hove	-	0.41	15	59	r	Swanage	-	0.74	15	59	r
Hunstanton	0.4	0.35	14	57	r	Teignmouth	-	0.35	15	59	r
Isle of Man	-	0.23	14	57	c	Tenby	-	1.56	14	57	r
Jersey	-	0.51	15	59	r	Tiree	2.6	0.09	13	55	r
Kinloss	X					Torquay	-	0.67	15	59	r
Leeds	1.3	0.24	14	57	c	Tynemouth	-	0.11	13	55	c
Lerwick	0.5	0.03	8	46	sh	Ventnor	-	0.61	14	57	r
Leuchars	0.4	0.05	9	48	r	Weymouth	-	0.67	15	59	r
Littlehmptn	-	0.72	15	59	r	These are Sunday's figures					

ABROAD

Ajaccio	21	70	s	Corfu	21	70	c	Malaga	22	72	s
Alicante	28	82	s	Dublin	12	54	c	Malta	23	73	f
Alex'dria	25	77	f	Dubrovnik	18	64	s	Menorca	22	72	s
Algiers	28	82	s	Faro	23	73	s	Mexico C	22	72	s
Amst'dm	12	54	r	Florence	13	55	d	Miami	29	84	c
Athens	25	77	f	Frankfurt	17	63	r	Milan	13	55	c
Bahrain	39	86	s	Funchal	22	72	f	Montreal	16	61	s
Bangkok	30	86	s	Geneva	19	66	s	Moscow	3	37	r
Barbados	29	84	c	Gibraltar	20	68	f	Munich	19	66	s
Barcelona	21	70	f	Helsinki	5	41	c	Nairobi	26	79	c
Beirut	27	81	s	Hong K	25	77	s	Naples	25	77	s
Belgrade	17	63	s	Innsbruck	16	61	s	N Delhi	28	82	s
Berlin	16	61	c	Istanbul	21	70	s	N York	21	70	s
Bermuda	26	79	f	Jeddah	31	88	f	Nice	19	66	s
Biarritz	23	73	s	Jo'burg	16	61	t	Oslo	6	43	r
Borde'x	21	70	s	L Palmas	23	73	f	Paris	17	63	c
Brussels	13	55	r	Le Touq't	13	55	f	Peking	19	66	s
Budapst	16	61	s	Lisbon	18	64	s	Perth	19	66	s
B Aires	14	57	f	Locarno	15	59	c	Prague	15	59	s
Cairo	28	82	f	L Angels	19	66	s	Reykjavik	0	32	sn
Casa Bl	-	-	-	Luxemb'g	15	61	r	Rhodes	23	73	s
Chicago	16	61	f	Luxor	32	90	s	Rio de J	23	72	f
Cologne	16	61	c	Madrid	18	61	s	Rio de J	22	72	f
C'hagn	13	55	r	Majorca	23	72	s	Riyadh	30	86	c
Rome	20	68	s
---	---	---	---
Salzburg	17	63	s
S Frisco	14	57	s
Santiago	15	59	c
S Paulo	20	68	c
Seoul	16	61	s
Sing'por	33	91	f
Stckholm	7	45	r
Strasb'rg	20	68	s
Sydney	21	70	f
Tangier	23	73	f
Tel Aviv	27	81	s
Tenerife	22	72	s
Tokyo	21	70	f
Toronto	16	61	s
Tunis	23	73	f
Valencia	19	66	f
Vanc'ver	10	50	f
Venice	12	54	sp
Vienna	18	64	f
Warsaw	14	57	r
Wash'ton	23	73	s
Wel'ngton	14	57	r
Zurich	19	66	s

Temperatures at midday local time. λ = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: low D will sweep northeast. Low W will start to fill as it moves east. Low E will start to deepen and move northeast. High B will maintain its central pressure and drift slightly east

HIGH/LOW

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.25	6.7			Liverpool	8.55	8.8	9.10	9.3
Aberdeen	11.23	4.1	11.30	4.1	Lowestoft	6.50	2.6	7.52	2.8
Avonmouth	4.5	12.2	5.13	12.9	Margate	9.41	4.6	10.22	4.8
Belfast	6.37	3.2	8.51	3.5	Milford Haven	3.56	8.4	4.14	8.6
Cardiff	4.30	11.30	4.54	11.90	Newquay	2.46	8.4	3.06	8.6
Devonport	3.29	5.0	3.44	5.3	Oban	3.52	3.8	3.57	4.0
Dover	8.43	6.4	9.08	6.5	Penzance	2.34	5.1	2.48	5.4
Falmouth	2.58	4.8	3.14	5.1	Portland	4.29	1.9	4.44	2.0
Glasgow	10.57	4.5	10.56	4.8	Portsmouth	9.08	4.8	9.22	4.8
Harwich	9.14	3.6	9.43	4.0	Shoreham	8.56	6.0	9.18	6.0
Holyhead	6.09	5.4	6.23	5.7	Southampton	6.31	4.4	6.58	4.4
Hull	3.44	6.81	4.24	7.03	Swansea	3.56	8.8	4.14	9.3
Ilfracombe	3.34	8.46	3.57	8.93	Tees	1.05	5.1	1.41	5.2
King's Lynn	3.48	6.3	4.30	6.3	Wilton-on-Ntes	9.18	4.0	9.52	4.1
Leith	-	-	12.30	5.4					

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HOURS OF DAYLIGHT

Sun rises: 6.54 am
Sun sets: 4.34 pm
Moon sets 3.19 pm
Moon rises 4.00 am

London 4.34 pm to 6.55 am
Bristol 4.44 pm to 7.05 am
Edinburgh 4.33 pm to 7.21 am
Manchester 4.37 pm to 7.09 am
Penzance 4.58 pm to 7.13 am

New moon November 3

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Booking a future with the words of sport



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Romeo and Juliet in a vivid German translation



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Hundred by Hick swings game England's way

CHECKING ON THE DIRECTORS
Law 35-38

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1 1994

Price worries reignite fears of rate rise

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

FEARS that another rise in interest rates may be decided at tomorrow's meeting between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England were heightened by figures showing another increase in money supply and signs of rising prices in manufacturing.

A rise in M0, which measures the volume of notes and coins in circulation, and an increase in the index of prices compiled by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, were seen by some City economists as ammunition that Mr George would use to argue for a pre-emptive rise in interest rates. A clearer view of the advice Mr George will give the Chancellor will come in today's Bank of England *Inflation Report*.

M0 rose by 0.5 per cent in October, taking its year-on-year growth rate to 7.3 per cent, from 7.2 per cent in September. The Treasury, in particular, has been playing down the importance of M0, which has been well above the 4 per cent upper limit of its *monitoring range for some* time.

The Governor has said that the financial markets are exaggerating inflationary fears. As recently as last week, however, both he and the Chancellor extolled the virtues of moving rates before the market expected it.

Mervyn King, the director of economic research at the Bank, said in a speech last week that the decision to raise base rates in September had led, as the Bank had hoped, to lower inflation expectations and to greater monetary policy credibility. However, there was "still some way to go" in establishing long-term anti-inflation credibility with the markets.

The latest survey from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply showed that growth in manufacturing activity slowed in October, but there was a rise in the institute's prices index. Peter Thomson, the institute's director-general, said *purchasing* managers expected price rises and were buying extra stocks.

This survey follows evidence from the Confederation of British Industry last week which showed that a higher proportion of companies expected to raise their prices over the next four months.

The chance of a decision for higher rates tomorrow is a close call. A Reuters poll of 20 City economists last Friday showed that only two expected a rate rise this week. But the short sterling futures contract is discounting a rise in rates to 6.5 per cent, from the current 5.75 per cent, by the end of this year.

Another rate move now may be thought preferable to one at *the next meeting, which would* be just after the Budget, or to one at the end of December, when the New Year sales will be getting under way, a crucial time for retailers.

Yesterday, the Treasury appeared to distance itself from the signals coming from M0. An official noted that the rise *in October was half of* September's 1.1 per cent, and also said that M4, the broad measure of *money supply, remained* comfortably within the bottom half of its monitoring range.

The Chancellor and the Governor will have to weigh up a complex economic picture. Consumption has showed clear signs of weakening and there are widespread expectations that the Chancellor will deliver a fairly tough Budget this month. However, recent survey evidence has *suggested that exports and* investment are set to pick up strongly.

Inflation fell in September — according to figures published since the base rate rise was decided — to another 30-year low. But there is evidence that wages and prices have picked up and the Bank of *England is committed to* gearing policy towards keeping inflation in the bottom half of the 1 to 4 per cent target range.

Europe keeps producers up to the mark

HEW EVANS



Making a mark: the Patent Office in Newport, Gwent, came under seige yesterday as hundreds of high profile brand businesses rushed to register their trademarks under the 1994 Act. The new *law was brought in to harmonise* British trademark law with the EU. Coca-Cola's classic bottle sign and the Kodak Gold film box were among the first entries along with Bass, the brewer, whose red *triangle became the first ever trademark* when it was granted in 1876; it is still used. Owners of registered trademarks will now also be able to have their signs protected in international law.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3097.4	(+13.6)
Yield	4.09%	
FT-SE A All share	1536.31	(+6.49)
Nikkei	19989.80	(+184.44)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3920.57	(-10.09)*
S&P Composite	*473.89*	*(+0.12)**

US RATE

Federal Funds	4¾%*	(4 11/16%)
Long Bond	94 30/32*	(94 11/16)
Yield	8%*	(7.97%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6%	(5 15/16%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	100 28/32	(100 21/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6355*	(1.6240)
London:		
$	1.6355	(1.6193)
DM	2.4601	(2.4492)
FFr	8.4205	(8.4005)
SFr	2.0530	(2.0466)
Yen	158.42	(157.89)
£ Index	81.0	(80.7)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5042*	(1.5100)
FFr	5.1485*	(5.1665)
SFr	1.2553*	(1.2595)
Yen	96.85*	(97.28)
$ Index	61.0	(61.1)

Tokyo close Yen 97.37

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jan)	$16.60	($16.75)

GOLD

London close	$384.65	($387.15

* denotes midday trading price

REC plans Greek exhibitions foray

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

REED Exhibition Companies (REC), part of Reed Elsevier, the publishing and information group, plans to move into the Greek market.

REC is joining forces with EuroPartners, the Athens subsidiary of Epsilon EuroConsultants of the UK, *in an attempt to* become a leading operator in the Greek exhibition market.

EuroPartners is currently organising the EuroMare 94 international environmental forum, which is set to take place in Athens later this month.

The forum is expected to attract substantial international interest, including numerous British companies *specialising in environmental* fields relating to ports and coastal areas. REC is the leading organiser of trade and consumer shows in the world, with a current portfolio of nearly 300 events.

Its worldwide events cover more than 40 industries and more than 62,000 exhibiting companies, and attract eight *million visitors.*

Among their first ventures together, EuroPartners and REC are promoting international sales for Greece and Cyprus for the Dubai International Jewellery exhibition, which is set to take place in April 1995.

The Dubai gold and jewellery exhibition will attract customers from Saudi Arabia, the UAE and other high-spending Gulf states.

Competition crucial to strategy

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government pledged yesterday to keep industrial competitiveness at the heart of its economic strategy as business leaders, banks, Labour and the trade unions came together to call for a concerted approach to improve Britain's manufacturing base.

But a senior banker advised against banks starting, once again, to lend aggressively as *the economy moved out of* recession, because of the inevitable pain for banks and businesses that would follow.

Business leaders are largely waiting for the Budget to see how far the Government's new emphasis on industrial competitiveness will be reflected in practice.

In advance of that, Charles Wardle, under-secretary for industry and energy, yesterday stressed the importance of a new partnership between industry and Government.

Addressing business leaders at a conference in London on the importance of manufacturing industry, sponsored by the EEF engineering employers, he said: "The issues of industrial competitiveness have been put at the heart of policy consideration right across Whitehall, and that is *where they will remain.*"

While there was correctly a debate about what those policies should be, especially as the economy moved from managing its way out of a recession to managing "stable, inflation-free growth", the Government's insistence on the centrality of competitiveness *was "absolutely constant."*

Graham Mackenzie, EEF director-general, said he hoped the Budget would show that the Government was, as industry was, ready to take up the challenge of working together to ensure British industry's competitiveness in world markets.

While Britain was clearly leading economic recovery in Europe, with a favourable combination of circumstances for business, that alone was far from sufficient for *sustained growth and prosperity* — a "stratgeic partnership" between Government and industry was also necessary.

Helping business to win demanded more than disparate initiatives, he said — and he warned against "disengagement" by the Government from business, which he *said would have as much* adverse impact on industry as "interventionist" changes in policy, especially in its threat to the technological capabilities that were so important for long-term growth.

In his first speech since taking over Labour's trade and industry brief, Dr Jack Cunningham urged the Government to back British business, while John Monks, TUC *general-secretary, said the Govern*ment needed to sustain growth beyond the immediate horizon *through long-term investment* in skills and innovation.

Michael Riding, general manager of Lloyds Bank's commercial services, told the conference that there were already signs of some banks relaxing credit standards.

He said: "I earnestly hope that we shall not see another *bout of overly aggressive* lending with its inevitable resultant pain for both banks and the business community."

GEC bid passes VSEL board

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE board of VSEL, the warship builder, has decided not to oppose last week's cash bid from GEC, but is determined to hold out for an even higher bid from either of the two bidders.

Sources close to VSEL yesterday indicated that the directors have concluded that a takeover by either GEC or its rival suitor, British Aerospace, would enhance VSEL's prospects. The company believes that its chances of winning key British and Far Eastern warship contracts will be enhanced if it becomes a subsidiary of either company and can use their capital base as a platform for expansion. VSEL has withdrawn its earlier recommendation for the BAe bid, and is co-operating with both bidders.

Attention has switched to the MoD, which could block GEC's higher offer by demanding a reference to the Monopolies Commission and then opposing the tie-up. But City analysts believe the MoD may be willing to accept a concentration of Britain's warship builders.

Some analysts believe BAe could afford a counterbid worth up to £18 a share *without facing dilution of* earnings. But GEC, which is bidding £14 a share for VSEL, £1 a share more than BAe, has the deeper pockets. Trading in VSEL's shares was brisk again yesterday, with more than 400,000 changing hands. VSEL shares eased 5p to £13.90 while BAe's fell 11p to 446p. GEC were down 1p at 277p.

Rival bids, page 27

Unit trust reforms launched

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE first in a series of reforms to the way in which the £100 billion unit trust industry operates comes into force today. A simpler pricing system and greater investment freedoms are part of a package that will lead to even *greater changes next year.*

The Treasury will publish a set of proposals that next summer will lead to the launch of open-ended investment companies (Oeics). These are expected to replace the present unit trusts. They are available elsewhere in Europe and will give UK unit trust managers a better chance of selling into the European market.

Peter Emms, a director at M&G, said: "We see these open-ended companies playing a significant role and they have the potential to replace *the present unit trusts.*"

The first changes can be seen on our unit trust prices pages. The "bid" and "offer" headings are replaced by "sell" and "buy". Other changes include allowing managers to introduce exit charges on general unit trusts with three months' notice and taking charges out of the income rather than the capital of an income fund.

Managers of emerging market funds will have greater freedom. They can invest directly in nearly all Latin American markets, whereas only Mexico was recognised before by the SIB.

Pennington, page 25
Unit trust prices, page 29

Number of shares quoted rises

BY LINDSAY COOK, BUSINESS EDITOR

FROM today, the number of shares quoted in *The Times* is increased to more than 1,700 — the highest number *of companies quoted in any* mainstream national newspaper. The number of unit trusts listed also rises by some 140 funds, again giving the largest total.

The share categories have been changed to be broadly in line with those used by the Stock Exchange and *The Financial Times*. This should help readers to find shares. Where categories are quite small, they have been amalgamated, so that all oil and gas categories are listed as oil and gas. Merchant and high street banks are listed as banks. Insurance companies and life assurance companies are listed under insurance.

FT-SE 100 companies are now listed in bold. The changes have been made in response to reader demand and as part of the ongoing improvements to the Business News section of *The Times*. Share prices, page 28

Manweb finance director quits without compensation

BY GEORGE SIVELL
ASSISTANT BUSINESS EDITOR

JOHN Astall, 44, the finance director of Manweb, resigned yesterday without compensation. A brief company statement from the electricity distributor said he would be leaving by mutual agreement *at the end of the month.*

Manweb said that an announcement on Mr Astall's *successor will be made in due* course and that, in the meantime, John Roberts, the present chief executive and a previous finance director, would assume the role of finance director.

Mr Astall had been finance director for three years. Manweb said: "For a number of reasons we concluded that he (Mr Astall) was not fitting comfortably with Manweb's style. It is a personal thing and it just did not work." Directors



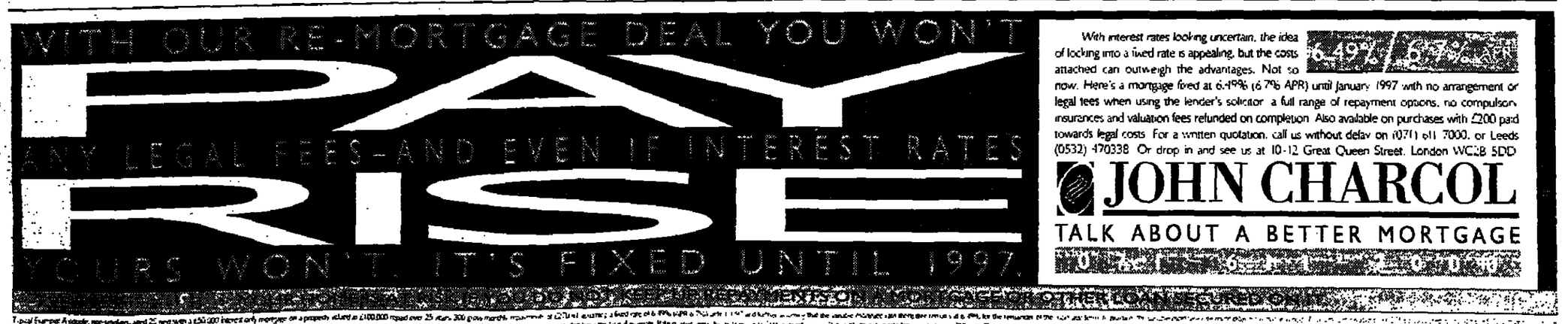
Astall: "not fitting"

in privatised utilities such as water and electricity have faced mounting criticism over *the size of paypackets, share* options and compensation for loss of office.

Manweb faced a storm of protest in August over its former chairman, Bryan Weston, leaving his two-day-a-week job with a package of £1 million.

Mr Astall, however, is not the first finance director of an electricity distributor to leave without compensation. John Quin left Seeboard earlier this year, taking early retirement at the age of 54. Mr Quin, however, was allowed to draw on his pension early.

Tempus, page 26



Nabisco to raise $1bn through food demerger

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN NEW YORK

RJR Nabisco, the American tobacco and food group, plans a partial demerger of Nabisco Holdings Corp, its food subsidiary, raising more than $1 billion.

The company is also abandoning plans to buy 20 per cent of Borden, the troubled food group that is the subject of a proposed buyout by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the New York investment firm.

The partial demerger comes as RJR and its larger rival Philip Morris, the owner of Kraft Foods, are under pressure from shareholders who fear that legal problems facing both company's huge tobacco operations are depressing the market's valuation of the food business. Philip Morris has shelved its own plans for a demerger, at least for the time being.

Charles Harper, RJR's chairman and chief executive, said: "This programme supports our focus on shareholder returns by establishing a separate trading value for our food business and providing shareholders with an immediate benefit — a common dividend — while also reducing overall debt."

The offering will mean the creation of a new food company, Nabisco Holdings, which will trade separately on the stock exchange. But RJR, with 81 per cent of the shares, will continue to exercise control over the company.

With a price of between $23 and $26 a share, the company expects to raise up to $1.17 billion from the sale, and would use about $1 billion to reduce debt.

RJR also plans to pay a quarterly cash dividend of 7.5 cents a share on its common stock, the first time since its shares became available to the public in 1991 that the company will have paid dividends. Nabisco Holdings plans to pay a quarterly cash dividend of 14 cents a share. Nabisco Holdings will have a separate board of directors, with Mr Harper as chairman and the current head of Nabisco, John Greeniaus, as president and chief executive.

One analyst pointed to US tax laws that allow a company to spin off a subsidiary on a tax-free basis only if it owns at least 80 per cent of the firm it is selling.

By retaining 81 per cent of Nabisco, RJR was sending a clear message that it will eventually sell the entire food company, he said.

After months of discussion, the Philip Morris board appointed a new chief executive over the summer and indicated that the plans to separate its tobacco and food firms had been shelved. In early September, RJR had agreed to exchange 500 million new shares of RJR Nabisco Holding for 20 per cent of Borden as part of the KKR buyout.

Explaining the decision to pull out of the deal, an RJR spokesman said the companies could not reach a definitive agreement because of complexities that included accounting.

Observers said yesterday the KKR buyout relied heavily on Nabisco taking a one-fifth stake in Borden, and while RJR's move away from the exchange may not alone scupper the deal, it is sure to make things difficult for the buyout specialist firm.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Thomson pays $465m for Ziff database

THOMSON Corporation, the publishing and travel group with interests in America, Canada and Britain, has agreed to buy the database operations of Ziff Communications for $465 million. it was announced yesterday. The deal is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The division, Information Access Co, provides reference and database services to public and academic libraries. In 1993, the company had sales totalling $5.9 billion. Its databases contain more than 20 million records from more than 6,250 publications, ranging from daily newspapers to technical journals. Family-controlled Ziff, which has been auctioning parts of its businesses, announced last week the proposed sale of its publishing unit for $1.4 billion to Forstmann Little, a New York investment firm. The auction process, which in its early stages attracted the interest of Reed Elsevier, began in June.

GrandMet seeks $500m

GRAND Metropolitan, the international food and drinks company, is planning to issue $500 million of perpetual fixed-rate preferred stock in the United States. The group has filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission for the issue, which it said will be launched shortly, subject to market conditions. GrandMet, which launched a $1.2 billion 10-year zero coupon bond in May, said the preference issue would further diversify its sources of funding and increase the company's liquidity. Goldman Sachs and Merrill Lynch will act as co lead managers for the issue with Goldman acting as book-runner. Tempus, page 26

Ormston goes at GBE

THE finance director of GBE, the tobacco machinery and packaging company, left yesterday as the company revealed a £3.9 million loss in the first half. The resignation of John Ormston follows a shake-up in the core management earlier this year. GBE's loss contrasts with a £1.1 million pre-tax profit last time. The loss was 5.53p a share, compared with earnings of 3.82p. Losses were attributed to a delay in orders that became apparent after the last year-end. Gerald Edwards, the chairman, said the company had carried out a review of the order book and an examination of the inventory, costings systems and manufacturing processes.

Samax flotation soon

SAMAX, the African gold exploration company, announced plans to raise £16 million through a share listing in London this month. The company said the flotation should enable it to complete the financing of its mining operations, repay short term loans and expand its exploration and development of mineral projects. Samax has mining operations with proven reserves of graphite in Tanzania and gold in Ghana due to start commercial production in the first half of 1995. Two of these projects — one for gold and the other for heavy minerals — have reached the stage of drilling to quantify resources. The flotation should value Samax at about £50 million.

C&W buys BT (Marine)

CABLE and Wireless is to acquire BT (Marine), British Telecom's marine subsidiary, for £40 million. The business, a leading player in submarine telecommunications installation and repair, operates six cable ships and other submersible equipment. It employs 540 people, and turnover was £68 million in the 1993-94 financial year. C&W's own marine business has annual turnover close to £80 million, with a fleet of nine ships, including *Cable Venture*, at present the world's largest cable-laying vessel. An even larger vessel, due for delivery in late 1995, with an overall load capacity of 7,500 tonnes, is under construction.

Alliance Gas purchase

ALLIANCE Gas, the largest of the new independent gas suppliers to emerge from the deregulation of the gas industry in Britain, has bought gas worth more than £150 million from three North Sea fields. The gas purchase agreements total 75 billion cubic feet of gas from the Brae, Beinn and East Sean fields, mainly from BP and Union Texas. Kris Maroe, managing director of Alliance Gas, said: "The new gas supplies will ensure our continued growth in the business market for gas and reinforce our reputation as a secure and longer term supplier." The Brae, Beinn fields are located in the central North Sea and East Sean in the southern North Sea.

Placing for Mid-States

MID-STATES, the distributor of automotive components in America, is to proceed with a delayed placing of new shares on Wall Street to raise $15 million. The company will also seek a listing of American Depositary Receipts on Nasdaq. The London-listed company delayed its plans in April because of adverse market conditions in America. Mid-States' brokers estimate the ADRs will be offered at between $9 and $11, equivalent to between 69p and 84p a share. In London, existing shares rose 3p to 78p yesterday. Mid-States' profits fell to £1.6 million (£2 million) in the third quarter. In the first nine months profits rose to £4.85 million (£4.6 million)

Panther leaps ahead

PANTHER Securities, the property company that achieved a full listing on the stock market in July, is paying a maiden interim dividend of 1.1p a share and has promised a final dividend of 1.6p. The company, whose chairman is Andrew Perloff, reported pre-tax profits of £1.13 million for the six months to June 30, compared with £707,354 for the whole of 1993, the last financial period before flotation. Earnings were 49.3p a share. Taxable profits include a surplus of £920,000 arising from the disposal of the company's holding in Cementone, formerly Multitrust.

MMC calls halt to Daily Mail purchase

BY MARTIN BARROW

The proposed £93 million acquisition by Daily Mail and General Trust of T Bailey Foreman's regional newspapers, including the *Nottingham Evening Post*, was halted by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission yesterday.

The MMC said the transfer "might be expected to operate against the public interest".

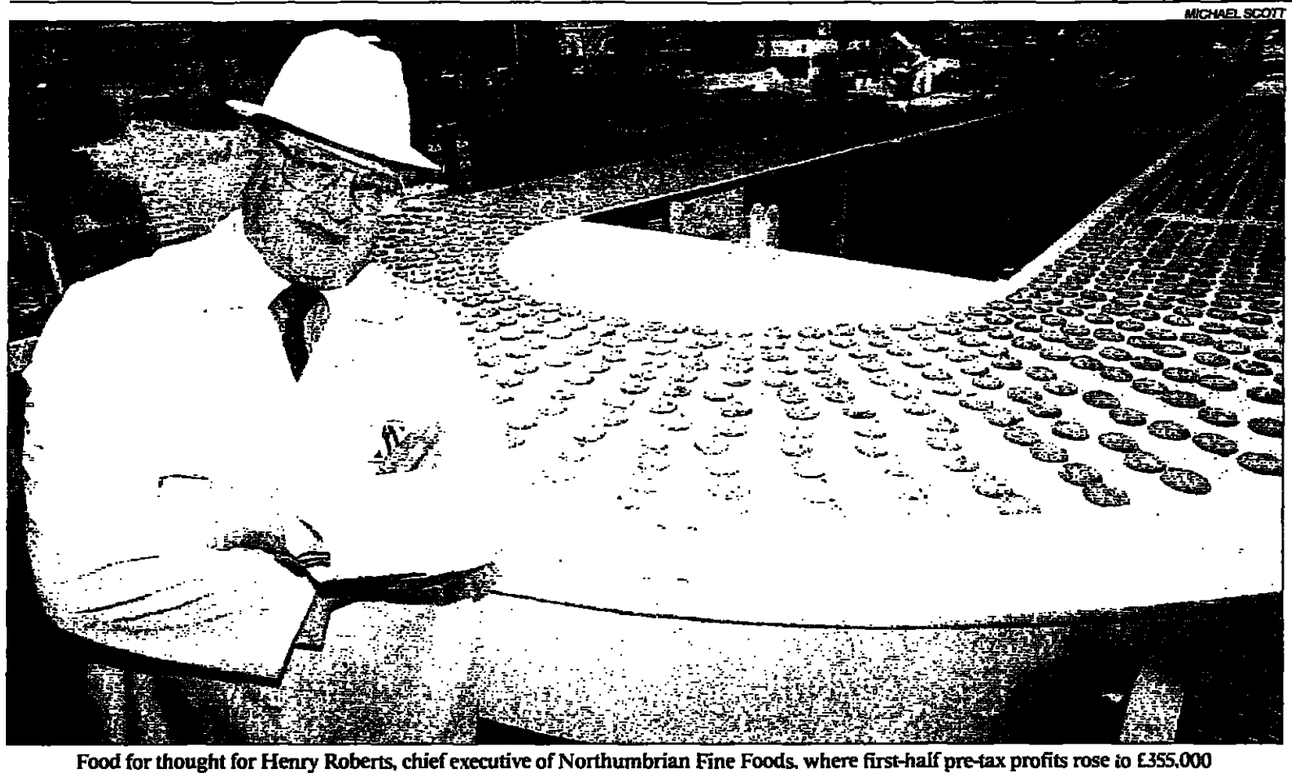
DMGT said it was disappointed. Once it has studied the report, it will seek to negotiate appropriate conditions with the DTI to obtain consent.

Tim Eggar, the industry minister, said: "The MMC considered that, although some benefits would accrue to readers and advertisers from the new investment which DMGT would bring to the business, these were outweighed by the adverse consequences which would arise from the significant increase in concentration of ownership of local newspapers in the region."

"The MMC concluded that this increase in regional concentration of ownership was of particular concern because of the possible consequences for free expression of opinion, and in particular for diversity of opinion in the region." The MMC also raised concerns that DMGT, through its subsidiary Northcliffe Newspapers Ltd, might use its enhanced regional power in a way which could result in competing weekly publications being forced to close or to reduce their editorial content.

Interested parties are invited to submit recommendations about appropriate conditions to remedy the adverse effects of the acquisition by November 21.

MICHAEL SCOTT



Food for thought for Henry Roberts, chief executive of Northumbrian Fine Foods, where first-half pre-tax profits rose to £355,000

Merseyside to begin £1.6bn regeneration

BY CARL MORTISHED

THE first instalment of a £1.6 billion European investment programme for the economic regeneration of Merseyside and the creation of 49,000 jobs will be announced today.

The initial £176 million package of funds is made up of £75 million of European grant topped up with funds from the Government plus private sector money. Further packages will follow over the next five years. The first instalment has been eagerly awaited by local authorities and businesses since Merseyside was given priority Objective 1 status and access to £13 billion of European structural funds last year.

Over the next five years, European grants worth £630 million and £630 million of government money and private sector contributions will be spent to raise economic activity and cut unemployment, which in parts has reached half of the male workforce.

Projects are envisaged in construction, investment promotion, small business development, training, technology and leisure. Today's awards are intended to create 3,900 jobs, 20,000 training places and 341,000 sq ft of industrial space. Bruce Millan, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, said the five-year objective was 49,000 jobs.

John Stoker, regional director of the Government Office for Merseyside and head of the local partnership administering the funds, said the total funds invested in the region could reach £2 billion through private sector investment. Disagreement between the European Commission and the UK Government over the administration of the grant money has delayed announcement of the first package of funds, with the initial UK proposals criticised for lacking input from local authorities and the private sector.

Small businesses figured large in the unsuccessful applications. Businessmen complain that private firms have been effectively debarred by the Government from obtaining Objective 1 funds despite their claim that the wording of the programme includes the private sector. According to Mr Stoker, under government policy "only a public sector body can lever in the grant by using its own funds". Today's awards include a £43 million package to improve industrial estates and reclaim derelict land. Mersey Docks and Harbour Company will get funds for a £3 million investment in the Port of Liverpool. A grant of £1 million is going to The Mersey Partnership to promote inward investment in the region.

Small businesses will hope to benefit from a £49 million support and advice package via Tecs and Business Links. Direct investment in small firms may have to wait for the Merseyside Special Investment Fund, a venture capital initiative to be established by Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, which is getting Objective 1 support for its plan.

Food group finds right recipe in cake maker

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

RECOVERY continued at Northumbrian Fine Foods as the biscuit and cake manufacturer yesterday reported a trebling of profits in the first half. Pre-tax profits jumped to £355,000 from £104,000 in the six months to September 30, on sales up 52 per cent to £12.3 million from £8.1 million. Earnings per share more than doubled to 0.58p from 0.28p.

Much of the growth in sales was due to a first-time contribution from Jesse Oldfield, the cake making business acquired in April. However, Henry Roberts, Northumbrian's chief executive, said the rise in profits was driven by improvement in the underlying business. "As the group is seen to recover, we are picking up longer production runs and getting economies of scale."

He said the group's increased purchasing power had also enabled it to pass on price pressures from retailers to its own suppliers. "We have a more balanced equation now," he added.

Mr Roberts said current trading was satisfactory, but he expects no easing of the competitive pressures that have plagued the industry for the past two years. The group is to reorganise its various subsidiaries into three or four operating companies that Mr Roberts believes will put it in a stronger position to resume dividend payments. Shareholders have not received a payout for almost three years.

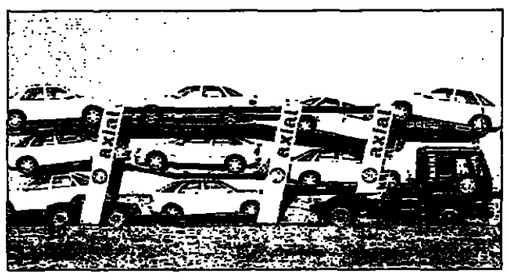
NFC in sale talks over car transport firm

NFC, the troubled distribution group, has started negotiations with John I Jacobs, the shipping company, to sell its car transportation business. The sale should be completed by the end of this month (Neil Bennett writes).

The disposal of BRS Car Delivery comes after it emerged that Peter Sherlock, the former chief executive of NFC, is suing the company for £1.3 million after he was ousted in August.

NFC has been unable to reach a severance agreement with Mr Sherlock in the past two months.

☐ Separately, Tibbett & Britten, the distribution group and one of NFC's main rivals, has announced that it is merging its two car transport subsidiaries and renaming the new company Axial Holdings. The company will have a turnvoer of £135 million, with operations in five European countries. The merged business will have contracts with many of the large carmakers.



Tibbett & Britten formed Axial after merger plan

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.31	2.12
Austria Sch	18.24	16.74
Belgium Fr	53.60	49.20
Canada $	2.302	2.142
Cyprus CypE	0.783	0.733
Denmark Kr	10.20	9.40
Finland Mkk	8.11	7.41
France Fr	8.88	8.18
Germany Dm	2.60	2.39
Greece Dr	393.00	368.00
Hong Kong $	13.17	12.17
Ireland Pt	1.07	0.99
Italy Lira	2535.00	2440.00
Japan Yen	173.00	156.00
Malta	0.621	0.566
Netherlds Gld	2.888	2.662
Norway Kr	11.24	10.44
Portugal Esc	261.50	243.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.42
Spain Pta	211.50	197.50
Sweden Kr	12.34	11.54
Switzerland Fr	2.20	2.02
Turkey Lira	refer	56390.0
USA $	1.719	1.589

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Peking adviser to be Hong Kong SE chief

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong Stock Exchange has elected as chairman a medical doctor who advises Peking on the colony's 1997 transfer to Chinese rule.

Edgar Cheng Wai-Kin, a son-in-law of Sir Y K Pao, the shipping magnate who died in 1991, succeeds Charles Lee, who has retired under exchange rules limiting the chairman to three one-year terms.

If Dr Cheng also serves three terms, he will lead the exchange through 1997, when Hong Kong reverts from British to Chinese rule.

The exchange said that Dr Cheng's frequent visits to China had brought him into close contact with many of the country's senior leadership figures.

Dr Cheng heads World-Wide Investment, a private business owned by the Pao family. He said that the Hong Kong exchange could provide vital expertise for China's efforts to reform its economy. He also said that he wanted to help to strengthen Chinese companies that have listed shares in Hong Kong.

"I would like to continue to see Hong Kong as a strong capital formation centre as well as a major trading centre for Chinese securities," he said. So far, 11 Chinese companies have listed specially tailored "H-class" shares in Hong Kong.

He said that he would visit Peking soon to discuss H-class listings with Liu Hongru, chairman of the China Securities Regulatory Commission, which oversees China's two stock markets.

Under Mr Lee, the Hong Kong exchange developed into one of the world's strongest stock markets. Since the end of 1992, the number of listed shares has climbed to more than 500.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7101

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Appointment of Admin istrative Receivers
WELLCOMM GROUP LIMITED (formerly Ramm Group Limited) WELLCOMM NETWORKS LIMITED (formerly Ramm Communications Limited) WELLCOMM MAINTENANCE LIMITED WELLCOMM COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES LIMITED RENTCOMM FINANCE LIMITED SYSTEMS DIRECT LIMITED (All in Receivership)
Registered Numbers. 2771506, 2807402, 2807408, 2771507, 2694291, 2819817.
Nature of Business: Telephone system maintenance, rental and installation Trade classification: 22 and 46 Date of Appointment as Administrative Receivers: 21 October 1994 Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers. Lloyds Bank Plc
Names of persons appointed: Paul Michael Davis and Steven John Billet
Address. 7th Floor Western House, 199 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR0 0HX
Office Holder No's. 007805 and 008358
Joint Administrative Receivers.

The Insolvency Act 1986
DESIGN TO PRINT (LONDON) LIMITED (In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that TERENCE JOHN ROPER OF 7J. ROPER & CO BARBICAN CITYGATE, 1-3 DUFFERIN STREET, LONDON EC1Y 8NA, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by a resolution of the Company's creditors on 26th SEPTEMBER 1994. Dated this 26th day of OCTOBER 1994 T.J. ROPER Liquidator.

PROPERTY SERVICES MANAGEMENT COMPANY LIMITED (IN MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company Number. 2110506
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF PROPERTY SERVICES MANAGEMENT COMPANY LIMITED
On 24 October 1994 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The Liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at No1 London Bridge, London SE1 9LQ by 7 December 1994 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full
Date 26 October 1994.
A.Y. Lomas Liquidator

WALTER JACOBS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules, 1986, that on 20.10.94 R A Segal of A Segal & Co Albert Chambers, 221 223 Chingford Mount Road, London, E4 8LP was Appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Members and Creditors. Dated 20.10.94. R.A. SEGAL Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 and IN THE MATTER OF COMPLETELY CAVIAR LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 17 November 1994 at 4 CHARTERHOUSE SQUARE, LONDON EC1M 6EN at 12 00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 of seq of the said Act. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA, of 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practioner pursuant to Section 98 (b) (a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require. DATED this 27th day of October 1994 BY ORDER OF THE BOARD T.N. ROBERTSON - Director.

IN THE MATTER OF B C Frame Erectors Ltd. IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, S.D. Sweden, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard & Co, PO Box 583, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, 12nd Floor, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 27th October 1994, DATED THIS 27th OCTOBER 1994.
S D. Sweden, FCA, Liquidator
Leonard Curtis & Co. Chartered Accountants, PO. Box 583, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, 12nd Floor, London W2 6LF.

NOTICE OF EVENT OF DEFAULT
To the holders of BAECO AIRCRAFT TRUST 1993-A Pass-Through Certificates due May 15, 1995
Reference is made to Certificates representing interests in the BAECO Aircraft Trust 1993-A, issued pursuant to that certain Declaration of Trust (the "Declaration"), dated as of November 16, 1993 among Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Trust Company (Channel Islands) Limited, as Trustee (the "Trustee"), The Bank of New York, as Pay-ing and Transfer Agent and Certificate Registrar, and VectorPartners Limited, as Depositor
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Trustee has been informed that an Event of Default (as defined in the Declaration) has occurred and is continuing. An Event of Default has occurred as a result of, among other events, the insolvency and pending liquidation of Linea Aeropostal Venezolana, C.A., the lessee of certain aircraft that serve as collateral security for the Certificates. Under the terms of the Declaration, Certificateholders representing a majority of the aggregate principal amount of outstanding Certificates have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee under the Declaration and under other relevant documentation. Accordingly, holders of Certificates should contact the Trustee: Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Trust Company (Channel Islands) Limited, CIBC House, Rue de Pre, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands GY1 3NS. Attention: Mr John Adie: Telephone (44) 481 710-161

SIGNTARGET LIMITED (In MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company Number 2963223.
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF SIGNTARGET LIMITED
On 24 October 1994 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders
The Liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rul 4.182A of the Insolvency Rule 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9BJ by 7 December 1994 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full
Date 26 October 1994
A.Y. Lomas, Liquidator

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
071-782 7101/7993
or
FAX: 071-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

Kleinwort Benson
PRIVATE BANK
Kleinwort Benson Private Bank announces that with effect from 1st November 1994 the Mortgage Management Account interest rate will be 7.75% per annum. The mortgage base rate is now 7.99% per annum.
Kleinwort Benson Private Bank is a Division of Kleinwort Benson Investment Management Limited

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☐ Post Office privatisation needs a rethink ☐ Unit trusts on fast track to Europe ☐ The price must be right for brands

Second class delivery

☐ HAS the Post Office been pigeon-holed? Only the Queen's Speech will finally resolve the battle for parliamentary time. For months, Royal Mail privatisation has been competing with a new Gas Bill in the growing conviction — for no very good reason — that only one slot will be available for the Department of Trade and Industry. The longer this went on, the slimmer the chances of a private sector postal service looked.

To start with, a Gas Bill is needed to accommodate changes that are already taking place in the industry. Without it, extra competition will increase uncertainty even more. The benefits of the new gas regime are, to say the least, questionable. But the key decisions have already been taken and there is important legislative tidying up to be done.

By contrast, there is no such hurry with the Post Office. Decisions have not been taken, at least in public. There is a general agreement that the Post Office needs more financial leeway if its development is not to be stifled. But there is little agreement on how this should be done. Meanwhile, a little more leeway from DTI ministers and Treasury letter-taxers would keep a good ship Bristol fashion.

Michael Heseltine's preferred solution is a patched-up compromise with little to commend it; it has notably failed to win centre-ground support, for instance from John Kay's London Economics. As a sop to worried Government backbenchers, their constituency post offices would be kept in the public sector. Even the entirely conventional privatisation proposed for the rest had to be dressed up as a "partnership" between public, Government and employees. This would spawn new problems as fast as it solved old ones.

Separation from the Royal Mail would expose cross-subsidies to rural post offices, making them even less safe in state hands. It would invite legal conflict over monopoly contracts. The precedents of British Gas and BT suggest that selling Royal Mail would begin a process of competitive restructuring rather than end an argument. In the long run, it would be hard to maintain the universal post.

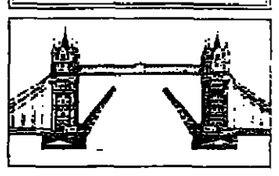
There are more immediate problems. Assume, for the moment, that Mr Heseltine could get the legislation through Parliament. Then comes the pricing of Royal Mail. Several state enterprises have been sold before elections in the teeth of Opposition threats. But it is different when the Opposition is miles ahead in the polls and speaks for public conservatism. Like as not, the sale would have to be at an embarrassing, giveaway price. That matters to the public finances: the Post Office is a Treasury cash cow, not a burden to be unloaded.

The arguments against a public sector Post Office battling head to head with private firms in new ventures are strong. But Mr Heseltine needs to devise a completely new scheme that will attract public, even bi-partisan support. Next year, maybe.

Trusts sans frontières

☐ THE unit trust industry has always employed some of the best marketing brains available. While they may have been willing to package and sell any trend or investment fashion they could lay their hands on, however, they have not always had the same enthusiasm towards the way in which their £100

PENNINGTON



billion industry operates. For example, back in the mid-eighties the Government offered to clear the legislative runway and introduce Open-ended investment companies (Oeics). This was turned down flat by the unit trust industry. A few years later the Government tried again with the same result. Unit trust management groups argued that traditional UK unit trusts were so good they could sell them into Europe and continental investors would flock to London. This turned out to be delusion on a grand scale. The more go-ahead companies like Morgan Grenfell, GT and Singer & Friedlander set up bases in Luxembourg and Dublin and offered Oeics. Since the mid-eighties, Luxembourg has gone from a standing start to building up a £900 billion Oeics base to rival the UK industry, which has been operating since 1932.

Finally, after years of hiding its head in the sand, the unit trust industry has realised that Oeics give it the only realistic way of expanding its unitholder base.

Oeics will also herald single pricing. Instead of the present buy and sell system, investors will pay the same figure regardless of whether they are buying or selling units. As Oeics will issue shares instead of units, investors will also have to pay stamp duty. Both initial and annual charges would be quoted separately.

The unit trust industry has had a sympathetic hearing from the Treasury, which, in spite of earlier rebuffs, is trying to push through the Oeics proposals as fast as possible. The Securities and Investments Board has also done its bit by freeing managers to invest directly in many more emerging markets.

In effect the SIB is saying to managers you can invest in these emerging markets provided you do so responsibly. In being treated in this adult fashion by the leading regulatory bodies the unit trust must respond in kind.

Which is the real thing?

☐ THE cola war is attracting new combatants daily. No sooner had J Sainsbury locked horns with Coca-Cola and Pepsi, the twin pillars of the civilised world, than Richard Branson fancied joining the scrap. Now Argyll is also keen to have a crack through its Safeway stores.

All three are having their ammunition manufactured by Cott, the Canadian drinks company, which must be number one on Coke's and Pepsi's hate lists. The world can expect a fiery, mud-slinging contest between the gamekeepers of Cola's once wondrous profit margins and the poachers who want to chisel off something for themselves.

From a wider viewpoint, cola wars are another illustration of the vulnerability of brands. Just as Marlboro Friday, and the cigarette price-cutting that followed, was triggered in America last year when Philip Morris saw its market share being eroded by discount brands, the margins on cola were too generous for someone to resist trying to take a piece. After all, cola is only a sweet, fizzy drink which costs a few pence per litre to manufacture, however much million-dollar marketing support its brands receive from hip-wiggling pop stars.

Brands can and do command premium prices since consumers prefer to buy a product whose name they know and trust. But there is an indefinable limit to that premium. Once the line is crossed, the brand owner is simply inviting competition, and once that particular genie is out of the bottle, it is particularly difficult and expensive to force it back inside.

HeVSELtine?

☐ SHOULD Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, shy away from a public pronouncement on the VSEL competition issue (hardly beyond the bounds) the onus will switch to Sir Bryan Carsberg's deliberations at the OFT. The deadline (based on BAe's notification and barring extensions) is seen as November 16. Then BAe and GEC must wait on green or amber lights from Michael Heseltine.

Vesteys to buy back part of food business

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Vestey family is buying back part of Union International, its food processing and distribution business. A trust controlled by the family is acquiring, for £100 million, Union's food businesses in Australia and the Far East, and its farming and property interests in Venezuela. The businesses to be bought made a combined profit of £12 million last year.

The disposals will help to cut repayments in proposed banking agreements that are still being negotiated. Existing arrangements with Union's 28 banks expire on December 30.

The family's decision to buy the businesses comes as a disappointment to Terry Robinson, Union's chief executive, who had been trying to negotiate a management buyout of the operations. The Vesteys own all Union's ordinary shares through a holding company and more than a quarter of the preference shares.

Mr Robinson was brought into the company in 1992, after it had sought help from its banks. A former Lonrho director, he said yesterday that he would stay with the company long enough to finish his task of "paying off the debt".

The acquisition of the Pacific Rim operations by the Vesteys and the sale of Union's Australian land development portfolio, planned for this year, will virtually wipe out Union's debts. These peaked at £423 million in June 1991, but under Mr Robinson they have come down to less than £100 million, as a result of asset disposals.

The disposal programme will continue, to complete repayment of bank debt and of financial support from Vestey family companies and trusts. Union has been in a standstill arrangement with its banks since 1992.

The buy-back and Australian property sale will leave Union with its Dewhurst, Matthew's and Baxter's butchers shop chain, the British beef businesses, the North American trading arm and some property. These remaining operations should make profits of between £8 million and £9 million a year.

Yesterday, Union unveiled a £33.2 million loss before tax for the six months to June 30, as a result of losses on the closure of its Weddel meat processing and exporting subsidiary in New Zealand. The business was put into receivership after bankers were unwilling to extend facilities. The receivership resulted in a £29.6 million exceptional charge. The loss compares with a £5.4 million profit in the first half of 1993.

Continuing operations, excluding the New Zealand business but including the businesses being sold, increased operating profits from £9.4 million to £10.2 million.

However, losses at UK operations increased from £1.5 million to £3.2 million. Operations in Australia, New Zealand and the Far East made operating profits of £7 million, compared with £7.6 million, and profits from South America were £5.6 million, compared with £2.3 million. Profits from North America were down from £1.2 million to £800,000.

The interest charge fell by 25 per cent, to £9.8 million.

TONY WHITE



Climbing back: Campbell & Armstrong, the shopfitting company with interests in the manufacture of lighting and display equipment, has again passed the interim dividend despite cutting losses to £200,000 before tax, from £1.9 million, in the half-year to the end of June. Losses were 1.4p a share, reduced from 7.9p. Ray Chambers, chairman, (right), pictured with chief executive John Naylor, said the company returned to profit at the operating level, earning £100,000 against losses of £900,000 previously. After a good second quarter, order books were stronger and the company was confident of a further improvement in performance for the year as a whole, he said.

There had been a recovery in most operations, although margins are under pressure. Turnover rose to £26.6 million from £24.3 million.

Acquisitive Danka lifts interim dividend

BY SARAH BAGNALL

DANKA Business Systems, the acquisitive office equipment supplier that operates mainly in America, increased pre-tax profits by more than 50 per cent in the six months to September 30.

Taxable profits rose to £21.1 million from £13.3 million, after a 67 per cent leap in turnover to £236 million from £141.1 million.

During the period, the company made 17 acquisitions, adding annualised sales of about $55 million. The company supplies and services office equipment in Britain, America and Canada.

Dan Doyle, chief executive, said further acquisitions were on the agenda. He said the board was "delighted" with the first-half results, which benefited from a continued focus on the group's core operations that had yielded strong internal growth while acquisitions were performing in line with expectations.

Mr Doyle said because of the "impressive performance" the interim dividend, which will be paid on January 25, was lifted 20 per cent, from 0.75p to 0.9p a share, paid out of earnings of 7.5p a share, up from 5.5p.

Tempus, page 26

Parsons to be Time Warner president

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

TIME Warner yesterday named Richard Parsons, a banking executive and a member of the board for four years, as president of the media and entertainment conglomerate.

Mr Parsons takes the title that Gerald Levin, Time Warner's chairman and chief executive, has held since early 1992. The appointment will come into effect on February 1 next year.

Sources close to Mr Levin said the chairman had been re-examining the wisdom of holding all three titles in the wake of Bert Wasserman's recent announcement that he plans to retire after a long run as chief financial officer.

As president, Mr Parsons, 46, will be responsible for corporate financial activities, legal affairs and corporate communications and administration.

Mr Parsons is currently chairman and chief executive of Dime Bank Corp, a $10 billion thrift that has agreed to a merger with Anchor Savings Bank in a deal that would create the largest savings bank in America.

Time Warner is the world's biggest media and entertainment company, generating more than $14.5 billion in revenue last year from its publishing, filmed entertainment, recorded music, cable TV systems and pay-TV operations.

National Power secures Pakistan scheme funds

BY A CORRESPONDENT

NATIONAL Power, the largest UK generating company, is close to securing financial backing for its 25.4 per cent stake in Pakistan's $1.6 billion Hub power project. The company sponsored and will operate the 1,292-megawatt, oil-fired power plant in Baluchistan through a newly floated vehicle called Hubco.

Philip Smith, National Power's director of treasury, said the deal had been so tortuous that it had halted progress on other projects. But Pakistan might tempt the company again. "We are looking very closely at a number of projects in that country."

He gave no details, but confirmed that National Power was also keen on Morocco and Turkey. "We have a clear strategy in selecting regions around the world and we are pursuing opportunities in both those countries," he said. The group wants to invest £1 billion overseas by 2000.

The Pakistan government decided to privatise parts of its power industry as long ago as 1985, and National Power has been battling for years for a stake in it. The Hub scheme is funded by $823 million of senior debt, $572 million of subordinated debt and equity of $372 million — of which $175 million was raised through international and local equity offers.

The World Bank, export credit agencies and Japan's Jexim are guaranteeing the deal in an innovative scheme designed to insulate senior lenders from political risk by underpinning the obligations of the Pakistan public sector.

"It has been a major challenge to put it together, but this achievement reflects the determination of all parties to ensure the success of the project," Mr Smith said.

The World Bank has confirmed that its board will meet to approve facilities for Hubco in the middle of this month. Approval from Jexim is expected after the World Bank meeting, so all aspects of the financing should shortly be in place.

National Power is investing $100 million in the power station, which should generate about 13 per cent of Pakistan's electricity when it is fully commissioned in March 1997.

It is predicted that equity investors will receive a return of about 17 per cent if Hubco, which will have four oil-powered units, is up and running on schedule.

National Power also has interests in power plants in the US, Portugal and India and it is a partner in the development if a "cleaner coal" power generation project in Spain.

HNVA bid for Heron launched

HNV Acquisition, seeking to take over Heron International, the property group established by Gerald Ronson, has secured agreement for continued funding from Heron's subsidiary bankers.

The agreement means HNVA was able yesterday to launch its offer to buy out Heron's bond and shareholders. Under terms announced on September 19, the bidder is offering Heron's investors cash or shares in HNVA, a company headed by Steven Green, an American businessman who runs the Samsonite Corporation.

If all the Heron investors accepted cash, the bid's value would be £142 million.

The partnerships backing the HNVA bid want to retain 51 per cent in the vehicle and applications for HNVA shares be scaled back pro rata if they exceed 49 per cent of the total equity. The share offer closes on November 22.

Coal Products shortlist decided



McErlain: still in the race

BY MARTIN BARROW, CITY NEWS EDITOR

ANGLO United, the troubled fuel distributor, and David McErlain, its former chairman, have been separately shortlisted in the sale of Coal Products Ltd, the British Coal subsidiary that is the country's largest manufacturer of solid smokeless fuels and foundry coke.

British Coal announced yesterday that bidders who go through to the second stage of the sale are Anglo United; Coal Developments, a company set up by Mr McErlain and Sir Harry Solomon; a management buy-in led by NatWest Ventures; and a management buy-out team led by David Foster, CPL's operations director, and backed by Legal & General.

Anglo United, the only publicly listed bidder, said a financial reorganisation of the existing capital would be necessary if its bid is selected. Discussions have already taken place with bankers. Its shares were unchanged at 2p.

In the last two financial years, Anglo United has incurred losses of £74.6 million before tax and £30.5 million, which included substantial write-offs as the company unwound much of the expansion of the late 1980s.

Bidders were selected from more than ten organisations that made preliminary offers. Final offers will be submitted by mid-December.

CPL has four main plants: three making solid smokeless fuel and one producing industrial coke. In the year to end-march 1994, it achieved operating profits of £16 million on sales of £131 million.



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STOCK MARKET | PHILIP PANGALOS

Utility firms turn in star performances

SHARES in utility companies were star performers on another volatile day, again dominated by concern in City trading rooms about the continuing low level of equity and bond trading volumes.

Electricity shares were among the best performers on the back of yield factors and prospects of further special dividend pay-outs. Electricity distributors and generators returned to prominence after weekend reports that **East Midlands** was preparing to pay another special dividend with the proceeds from next year's National Grid sale.

East Midlands, which gave shareholders a special dividend of 85p last week, advanced 19p to 686p, prompting sympathetic gains from others in the sector. **Eastern** jumped 30p to 796p, **London Electricity** added 19p to 725p, **Midlands** 23p to 785p, **Norweb** 20p to 815p, **Northern** 26p to 825p, **Seeboard** 17p to 432p, **South West** 26p to 792p, **South Wales** 23p to 820p, and **Southern** 28p to 800p.

But **Manweb** failed to hold on to a one-time 16p gain, ending 4p firmer at 807p. Manweb initially confirmed rumours that it was interested in a possible investment in an industrial combined heat and power plant to be built in north-west England, but said in a late announcement that John Astall has resigned as the group's finance director.

Water shares also did well, although most gains were trimmed at the close, as a number of leading brokers sang their praises for the sector's dividend potential before the interim reporting season that begins today.

Thames Water, due to report interims today, ended up 10½p at 532p, after touching a high of 542p. Analysts generally expect earnings figures from Thames to be good. *Interim pre-tax profits are* forecast to advance to between £145 million and £154 million (£112 million), with a dividend of 8p-8.1p (7.4p) anticipated. **Severn Trent** gained 14p to 573p, **Southern** 12p to 608p, and **Yorkshire** 19p to 553p.

Investors in London quickly shook off an another uneasy start, with shares dragged higher in the wake of Friday's strong gains on Wall Street and additional support for cash stocks from a firmer futures market.

Markets shrugged aside nervousness over higher interest rates, both at home and in the US, but genuine business was slack as institutional investors stayed away before today's Bank of England inflation report and tomorrow's meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, the Bank of England governor.

Equities failed to hold on to their best levels, with some profit-taking after a negative start to trading on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index, which was up more than 27 points at one stage, failed to stay above the 3,100 level, closing at 3,097.4, up 13.6. Volume reached only 416.7 million shares.

British Aerospace slipped another 11p to 447p on volume of 2.2 million shares traded, giving a two-day loss of 27p after the defence industry takeover battle intensified with last Friday's £14 a share counter-bid for **VSEL** by **GEC**. Brokers still think that GEC's offer is likely to prove to be decisive. Most observers expect Lord Weinstock's giant to win the day, with little chance of BAe coming back with a winning bid, though some say it is a still a bit too early to write off BAe altogether. VSEL eased 5p to £13.90, while GEC dipped 1p to 277p, on volume of 3.39 million shares. **Vosper Thornycroft** was again lifted by the prospect of a shake-up in the defence industry, climbing 16p to 735p.

John I Jacobs was in demand, adding 4p to 63p, after news of talks about the possible acquisition of the BRS Car Delivery unit of **NFC**, which holds contracts for the delivery of Saab and Volvo cars. However, NFC fell 5p to 178p. There was continued market talk that **Unigate**, the dairy products to road transport group, is close to finding a buyer for its 32 per cent stake in Verenigde Bedrivjen Nutricia, the Dutch food group. City favourites to pick up the stake, which brokers expect to fetch more than £250 million, include Heinz and Nestlé. *Unigate shares held* steady at 338p.

Oils were buoyed by stronger crude prices, with **BP** a particularly strong market. Shares in the oil giant advanced 6½p to 435p, on volume of 6.36 million shares traded, before third-quarter results due today. BP is expected to provide further evidence of accelerating revovery.

However, some food retailers suffered a bout of indigestion before figures this week from **Sainsbury**, down 3p at 398p, and **Kwik Save**, 9p lower at 546p.

Daily Mail Trust A slid 30p to 983p as the MMC moved to block the group's proposed takeover of Bailey Foreman, the *Nottingham Evening Post* publisher. **Hewitt Group** fell 37p to 88p in the wake of first-half losses outlined on Friday, while **Pascoe** shares retreated 3p to 30p having reported losses after Friday's close.

GBE International, the engineer, fell 6p to 32p after it accompanied interim losses of £3.9 million with news that the group's finance director has quit without an immediate replacement.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Government stocks came in for some early profit-taking after Friday's squeeze, although losses among cash stocks were trimmed to £⅜ at the longer end of the market, while index-linked stocks ended unchanged.

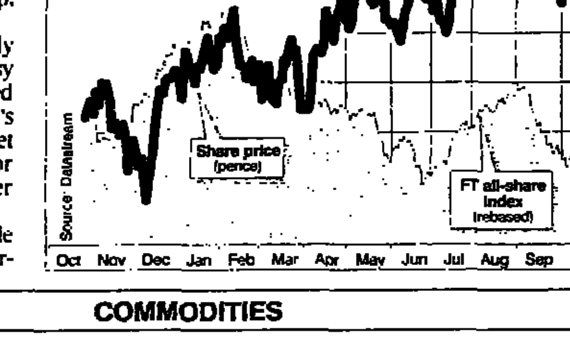
Gilts took more note of the purchasing managers' index, pointing to further upward pressure on prices and money supply figures showing that notes and coins in circulation were rising by a bigger margin than expected. The December long gilt future ended 12 ticks lower at £100 19/32, on a volume of 29,000 contracts traded.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street shares continued to trade lower at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 10.09 points at 3,920.57.



Water companies' shares did well on another volatile day

SHARES in Macro 4, the computer software company, climbed 11p to close at a day's high of 434p, on news that the company plans to buy back 1.1 million of its shares. Some 840,000 shares were bought yesterday through an agency cross, at 430p a share, with the business done by S G Warburg, the company's broker.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3920.57 (-10.09)
S&P Composite .... 473.59 (+0.12)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 19989.60 (+184.44)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 9646.25 (+266.78)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 412.62 (+3.57)

Sydney:
AO .... 2044.8 (+23.6)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2071.63 (+31.31)

Singapore:
Straits .... 2379.03 (+16.57)

Brussels:
General .... 7143.90 (+67.97)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... closed

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 641.60 (+7.80)

London:
FT 30 .... 2361.9 (+6.8)
FT 100 .... 3097.4 (+13.6)
FT-SE Mid 250 .... 3516.9 (+15.3)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100 .... 1337.14 (+10.53)
FT A All-Share .... 1536.31 (+6.49)
FT Non Financials .... 1658.89 (+7.36)
FT Gold Mines .... 273.9 (-5.5)
FT Fixed Interest .... 107.74 (+0.43)
FT Govt Secs .... 91.04 (-0.17)
Bargains 21459
SEAQ Volume 416.7m
USM (Datastrm) .... 157.09 (+0.02)
US$ .... 1.6306 (+0.0070)
German Mark .... 2.4576 (+0.0068)
Exchange Index .... 81.0 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.2795
£:SDR 1.0962
RPI .... 145.0 Sep (2.2%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

APTA Health Wts	6½	...
Artesian Estates	73	+4
BZW Commodities (100)	89	...
BZW Commodities Wts	45	...
Calluna	92	...
Ennemix (63)	67	...
Filtronic Comtek	125	+5
Games Workshop (115)	126	...
Group Dv Cap Wts	27	...
Hambros Sml Asian	58	...
Hambros Smlr As Wts	27	...
Irish Permanent (180)	223	+1
Man ED & F (180)	166	+1
Prolific Inc	486	+3
Servisair (135)	145	-1
Whitchurch	62	...
Wrexham Water	338	...
Wrexham Water NV	320	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

APTA Healthcare n/p (17)	¼	...
Bullers n/p (20)	4	...
Cattles n/p (118)	11	+2
Dragon Oil n/p (1r4p)	¼	...
Matthew Clark n/p (500)	39	...
Novo n/p (26)	¼	...
Sidlaw n/p (180)	15	+7
Smurfit (J) n/p (1r330p)	40	+1
Union Square n/p (5)	¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Whitbread .... 572p (+15p)
Wolseley .... 776p (+17p)
Elsevier .... 624p (+23p)
British Biotech .... 598p (+18p)
Courtaulds .... 445p (+10p)
Pacific Assets .... 534p (+10p)
FALLS:
J Hewitt .... 88p (-37p)
Grainger .... 244p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 28

TEMPUS

Electric shock

YESTERDAY'S short announcement from Manweb on the resignation by the finance director raised more questions than it answered and gave the lie to the common *feeling that life is all champagne and share* options in the electricity distribution industry.

John Astall, 44, is said to be resigning by mutual agreement with immediate effect and leaving the company at the end of this month. Manweb says he will receive no compensation, no payment on contract and will not be taking any share options with him.

He was said not to have had any problems with other board members and not to have disagreed with any of them over strategy. The official line from Manweb is that "for a number of reasons we concluded that he was not fitting comfortably with Manweb's style. It is a personal thing and it just did not work."

Mr Astall had been with the company for three years, a long time to discover that someone's face did not fit, and there were more than a few eyebrows raised in the City about his departure.

Shareholders in Manweb should, however, feel reasonably relaxed as yesterday's rise of 4p to 807p in the shares indicates. Investors in the electricity sector are rarely personality driven. Manweb has no foreign exchange exposures and, indeed, is sitting on net cash.

Could it be that Manweb is taking to heart the outcry over the £1 million that Bryan Weston, the former chairman, departed with from his two-days-a-week job? That would appear to be a sharp change of mind from the vigorous defence of share options as a means of motivation it mounted on the day of Mr Weston's departure.

Danka

DANKA Business Systems *could not grow sales faster if* it printed money on its photocopiers. Indeed the speed of growth — sales up two-thirds and earnings ahead a third in the half year — is enough to give one the jitters.

Danka, however, is profiting from the bad odour caused by rivals. With 90 per cent of its business in the US, the company is new to trading in the UK and, unlike its rivals, *is not involved in leasing*. Muscling in on former unhappy customers has enabled Danka to build market share, currently 2.5 per cent.

For Danka, selling photocopiers or faxes is almost a loss leader for its service business, which earns 82 per cent of the profits. The struggle among equipment manufacturers to bring out more sophisticated products means that Danka is always servicing a more complex copier than last year's standard model.

The technological drive helps Danka in another way by building in bigger barriers to entry in what is a fragmented business. Even in its American home market, Danka boasts only a 2.5 per cent share, but smaller companies are being shut out by the cost of training staff to service the latest *colour copiers*. Strong cash flow has allowed Danka to boost its 15 per cent organic sales growth with acquisitions. The biggest danger for shareholders is that Danka will be tempted to make a quantum leap with an ill-considered acquisition.



GrandMet

MEASURED in revenue terms, GrandMet should be regarded as an American company, and it comes as a surprise to learn that the Yanks own less than 10 per cent of a business that boasts brands like Pillsbury, *Häagen-Dazs and Green* Giant. Hitherto, the company has done little to promote investor relations in the United States. The forthcoming preference share issue should make up some lost ground and it is said that Americans like buying and selling brands.

The motivation for the issue, however, is balance-sheet, rather than investor-led. The company has a large chunk of dollar borrowings and wants to improve their maturity. Issuing undated preference shares from a US subsidiary to American investors has the attraction of paying back short-dated borrowings while ensuring that the company does not create an ACT problem by making dividend payments in the UK.

GrandMet has had an unmemorable year, pilloried for making a £280 million restructuring provision in September within a year of a £175 million provision. Borrowings, however, are coming down fast and with a preference issue following the Alpo pet food sale, gearing could be below 40 per cent by the year-end, with a further improvement in cash generation next year on the cards.

NFC

THE few remaining followers of NFC will earnestly hope that the company shows more skill disposing of a business than it did parting with a chief executive.

The £1.3 million writ that Peter Sherlock has felt obliged to fire at the company does not say much about its personnel management, even less about relations in the boardroom before he left. Strangely, however, NFC has shown no inclination to revise the reorganisation plans that Mr Sherlock started rolling before he left. The disposal of the car transport business is a long overdue divestment. The business, with an annual revenue of £3.2 million, was a distraction from the group's main Exel logistics operation and hopelessly overshadowed by the Axial company that Tibbett & Britten has built by acquisition.

NFC's loosely connected business portfolio needs a further shake-down before shareholders who backed last year's rights issue will feel vindicated. What the business really needs is a strong external chief executive to carry these initiatives through. Perhaps Sir Christopher Bland will address this issue when he takes up the chairmanship in January.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	955-954	Mar	1056-1054
Mar	983-982	May	1067-1064
May	992-991	Jul	1076-1074
Jul	1006-1005	Sep	1086-1085
Sep	1018-1017		
Dec	1037-1036		Volume: 3295

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	3419-3415	Jul	3385-3375
Jan	3458-3455	Sep	3350-3360
Mar	3430-3428	Nov	3380-3360
May	3415-3410		Volume 4440

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	344.0-43.5
Spot: 361.00		Oct	321.0-20.0
Dec	355.5-54.5	Dec	320.8-19.0
Mar	346.0-47.5	Mar	322.0-17.7
May	346.7-46.2		Volume 1437

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 28

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	71.23	96.12	115.97
(+/-)	-1.81	+5.82	-1.97
Eng/Wales	71.23	96.20	115.98
(+/-)	-1.81	+6.22	-1.97
(%)	+3.0	-17.0	-11.0
Scotland:	unq	95.53	114.94
(+/-)		+2.95	-0.09
(%)		-24.0	+44.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.05	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Dec)	16.80	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Jan)	16.60	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	18.10	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	17.95	-0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas 15	B: 187 (+1)	O: 189 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	151 (+1)	152 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Nov	153 (-1)	154 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Dec	154 (-1)	156 (-2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	94 (n/c)	97 (+1)
Naphtha	171 (-1)	174 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Nov	150.75-51.00	Feb	154.75-55.00
Dec	152.00-52.25	Mar	154.75-55.25
Jan	153.75-54.00		Vol 10331

BRENT (6.00pm)

Dec	16.61-16.62	Mar	16.35-16.40
Jan	16.60-16.61	Apr	unq
Feb	16.46-16.47		Vol. 22296

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	105.00	Nov	101.70
Jan	107.05	Jan	103.50
Mar	109.10	Mar	105.50
May	111.00	May	108.15
Jul	112.95	Sep	93.00
Volume 213		Volume 9	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	150.0
Apr	226.0	224.3
May	unq	242.5
		Volume 62

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Dec 82.25-82.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 94	unq	unq	1572
Nov 94	1826	1820	1910
Dec 94	1725	1725	1730
Jan 95	1675	1660	1668
Vol 62 lots		Open Interest: 3290	

Index 1970 -1

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2683.0-2684.0	2665.0-2665.5	1439125
Lead ($/tonne)	657.50-658.00	673.00-673.50	196800
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1111.5-1112.0	1133.5-1134.0	657050
Tin ($/tonne)	5905.0-5915.0	5980.0-6000.0	39640
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	*1801.0-1802.0*	*1921.0-1922.0*	1062750
Nickel ($/tonne)	7275.0-7276.0	7380.0-7385.0	91110

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Dec 94	3104.0	3130.0	3087.0	3109.0	12540
Previous open interest: 57404	Mar 95	3140.0	3140.0	3125.0	3129.0	62
Three Month Sterling	Dec 94	93.55	93.58	93.46	93.50	14047
Previous open interest: 487170	Mar 95	92.75	92.76	92.63	92.66	17791
	Jun 95	92.11	92.11	92.02	92.04	4474
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 94				94.04	0
Previous open interest: 4330	Mar 95				93.60	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 94	94.97	94.97	94.92	94.92	10617
Previous open interest: 673006	Mar 95	94.59	94.61	94.54	94.54	17600
Long Gilt	Dec 94	101-03	101-03	100-15	100-19	29380
Previous open interest: 106395	Mar 95	100-00	100-00	100-00	99-22	1
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 94	107.92	108.20	107.92	108.18	3160
	Mar 95	107.22	107.22	107.19	107.40	254
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 94	89.63	89.71	89.08	89.13	75930
Previous open interest: 154187	Mar 95	88.75	88.77	88.70	88.33	122
German Gov Bd Bobl	Dec 94					
Previous open interest: 0						
Three month ECU	Dec 94	93.94	93.94	93.90	93.90	260
Previous open interest: 22689	Mar 95	93.46	93.46	93.43	93.45	609
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 94	95.86	95.87	95.83	95.84	1595
Previous open interest: 41113	Mar 95	95.60	95.60	95.52	95.55	933
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 94	100.61	100.67	99.72	99.80	26612
Previous open interest: 65001	Mar 95	99.26	99.26	99.26	99.06	100

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¾ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O night high: 5¾ Low 4½ Week fixed: 5⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5⅝; 3 mth 5⅝. Sell: 2 mth 5⅝; 3 mth: 5⅝

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅝-5½	5¾-5⅝	5⅞-5¾	6⅛-6	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅝-5½	5¾-5⅝	6-5⅞	6⅜-6¼	7⅛-7
Interbank:	5¾-5⅝	5⅞-5¾	6-5⅞	6⅜-6¼	7⅛-7
Overnight: open 5¾, close 5¾					
Local Authority Deps:	5¾	n/a	5⅞	6⅜	7¼
Sterling CDs:	5⅝-5½	5¾-5⅝	5⅞-5¾	6⅜-6¼	7⅛-7
Dollar CDs:	5.00	n/a	5.56	5.86	6.40
Building Society CDs:	5⅝-5½	5¾-5⅝	6-5⅞	6⅜-6¼	7⅛-7

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Aug 31, 1994 Agreed rates Sep 26, 1994 to Oct 25, 1994 Scheme III: 6.82 %. Reference rate July 30, 1994 to Aug 31, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 5.576%

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	4¾-4⅝	5-4⅞	5⅝-5½	5⅞-5¾	4¾-3¾
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4¾	5-4⅞	5⅛-5	5⅜-5¼	5-4
French Franc:	5⅜-5¼	5½-5⅜	5⅝-5½	5⅞-5¾	5½-4½
Swiss Franc:	3⅞-3¾	3⅞-3¾	4¼-4⅛	4⅜-4¼	4½-3½
Yen:	2¼-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2¼-1¼

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $387.10-387.50 **Close:** $384.40-384.90 **High:** $387.35-387.85 **Low:** $381.90-382.40 **AM:** $387.40 **PM:** $383.85

Krugerrand. $387.00-390.00 (£237.00-239.00)

Platinum: $420.10 (£259.75) **Silver:** $5.28 (£3.225) **Palladium:** $158.00 (£97.65)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 31	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7469-2.7585	2.7554-2.7588	¼pr-par	¾-¼pr
Brussels	50.41-50.70	50.60-50.70	4pr-par	14-5pr
Copenhagen	9.5900-9.6350	9.6180-9.6330	par-¼ds	¼-2ds
Dublin	1.0093-1.0200	1.0174-1.0200	2pr-1ds	6-3pr
Frankfurt	2.4502-2.4617	2.4565-2.4617	¾-½pr	1¼-¾pr
Lisbon	250.19-252.00	251.33-252.00	53-104ds	205-290ds
Madrid	203.90-204.95	204.64-204.95	35-42ds	94-110ds
Milan	2505.20-2518.20	2513.90-2518.20	5-7ds	16-18ds
Montreal	2.1914-2.2140	2.2110-2.2140	0.10-0.06pr	0.20-0.11pr
New York	1.6216-1.6360	1.6350-1.6360	0.07-0.06pr	0.12-0.09pr
Oslo	10.6550-10.7020	10.6860-10.7020	¼-¾ds	1¼-2¾ds
Paris	8.3660-8.4260	8.4130-8.4260	¾-½pr	¾-¼pr
Stockholm	*11.6530-11.7680*	*11.7430-11.7680*	1¼-2¾ds	5¼-7ds
Tokyo	157.79-158.55	158.25-158.55	¾-½pr	1¾-1½pr
Vienna	17.25-17.38	17.34-17.38	1¾-½pr	4¾-2¾pr
Zurich	2.0456-2.0545	2.0515-2.0545	¾-½pr	1¾-1¼pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3468-1.3477
Austria	10.61-10.62
Belgium (Com)	31.03-31.04
Canada	1.3523-1.3528
Denmark	5.8990-5.9020
France	5.1645-5.1665
Germany	*1.5078-1.5085*
Hong Kong	7.7268-7.7278
Ireland	1.6038-1.6048
Italy	1542.25-1543.75
Japan	97.00-97.10
Malaysia	2.5567-2.5577
Netherlands	1.6905-1.6910
Norway	6.5540-6.5570
Portugal	154.18-154.28
Singapore	1.4701-1.4706
Spain	125.55-125.60
Sweden	7.2107-7.2207
Switzerland	1.2580-1.2590

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6245-1.6272
Australia dollar	*2.1892-2.1920*
Bahrain dinar	0.6055-0.6175
Brazil real*	1.3773-1.3815
Cyprus pound	0.7435-0.7535
Finland markka	7.452-7.568
Greece drachma	374.00-381.00
Hong Kong dollar	12.5599-12.5693
India rupee	50.40-51.36
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4775-0.4875
Malaysia ringgit	4.1579-4.1608
Mexico peso	5.395-5.495
New Zealand dollar	2.6406-2.6447
Pakistan rupee	49.18 buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0245-6.1505
Singapore dollar	2.3914-2.3933
S Africa rand (fin)	6.5526-6.6056
S Africa rand (com)	5.7082-5.7167
U A E dirham	5.898-6.022

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	113	Legal & Gn	1,200
ASDA Gp	4,200	Lloyds Bk	2,900
Abbey Natl	3,100	MEPC	627
Allied Dom	644	Marks Spr	2,000
Argyll Gp	1,600	NatWst Bk	2,700
Arjo Wiggin	*358*	*Nat Power*	*2,100*
AB Foods	105	Nth Wst W	1,000
BAA	1,200	P & O	2,100
BAT Inds	3,100	Pearson	775
BOC	678	PowerGen	1,000
BP	6,300	Prudential	5,100
BTR	4,600	RMC	125
BT	7,900	RTZ	3,200
Bk of Scot	1,200	Rank Org	1,500
Barclays	5,100	Reckitt Col	1,000
Bass	*1,400*	*Redland*	*1,000*
Blue Circle	1,000	Reed Intl	1,100
Boots	1,000	Rentokil	601
Bowater	263	Reuters	6,700
Brit Aero	2,100	*Rolls Royce*	*2,200*
Brit Airwys	3,800	Ryl Ins	3,900
Brit Gas	4,400	Ryl Bk Scot	1,700
Brit Steel	3,500	Sainsbury	1,700
Burmah Cstl	142	Schroders	9
Cable Wire	5,800	Scot & New	490
Cadbury	1,900	Scot Power	1,300
Caradon	1,700	Sears	8,700
Carlton Cms	611	Svrn Trent	1,700
Cm Union	995	Shell Trans	2,400
Courtaulds	979	Siebe	811
De La Rue	243	SmKl Bch	2,700
Eastern Elec	1,300	Smith Nph	2,800
Enterpr Oil	333	Sthern Elec	1,000
Forte	2,300	Std Chartd	2,300
GKN	952	Sun Allnce	1,300
GRE	550	TI Gp	668
GUS	1,100	TSB	2,200
Gen Acc	919	Tesco	2,100
Gen Elec	3,300	Thames W	2,000
Glaxo	2,000	Thrn EMI	494
Granada	373	Tomkins	2,300
Grand Met	5,900	Unilever	558
Guinness	3,400	Utd Bisc	2,900
HSBC	1,900	Vodafone	2,700
Hanson	7,900	Warburg (SG)	678
ICI	*1,700*	*Wellcome*	*609*
Inchcape	991	Whitbread	1,100
Kingfisher	726	Wlms Hld	670
Ladbrke	932	Wolseley	289
Land Secs	791	Zeneca	1,800

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Alld Dom	550	54½	63	69½	6	11½	14½
(*597½)	600	21	33	40	24	31	41
Argyll	260	13½	21	24½	13	17½	22½
(*263)	280	6	12½	16	25	29½	34½
ASDA	60	5	6½	5	4	5½	6
(*60½)	70	1½	3	4½	10½	12	12
Boots	500	39½	52	56	7½	14	22
(*530½)	550	12	25½	32½	31½	39½	47
Br Airways	330	31	40	46½	5	13	19½
(*362½)	360	14½	24	31	22	27	34
BP	420	27½	35½	42½	10½	17½	22
(*435)	460	9½	17	23½	32	38½	43
Br Steel	160	9	14½	17½	8½	11	14
(*160)	180	3	7	9½	22	24	26
C & W	420	24	36	45	21½	28½	36
(*420)	460	10	20½	29	46	53	60
CU	543	28	36½	—	17½	31½	—
(*547)	592	9	17	—	49	63	—
ICI	800	38	51	61½	27	44	54
(*801½)	850	16½	29	41	57½	75	83½
Kingfishr	460	32	40½	51	13½	22½	30
(*472½)	500	13	28	32	34	44	51½
Land Sec	600	26½	41	47½	14	17½	28½
(*616½)	650	6	19½	24	44½	46	57½
M & S	390	22	41½	43	5	10	12
(*414½)	420	14	24	30	17	22	24½
Nat West	500	29½	39	46	16½	35	39
(*503½)	550	16	18½	26	50½	65½	69½
Sainsbury	390	22	34	41½	14	20	27
(*397½)	420	9	20	28½	31½	37	44
Shell	700	49	59	67½	7½	18½	23½
(*734)	750	15½	30½	38½	27½	43	47½
Smkl Bch	390	27½	36½	43	12	19	24
(*406)	420	13½	22	29	27½	34	30
Storehse	200	22½	26	29½	2½	4½	6½
(*218½)	220	10	14½	19	9½	12½	15
Trafalgar	80	6½	9½	11½	4½	6½	7½
(*82)	90	3	5½	7	10½	12	13½
Unilever	1100	60	80	91½	16	33	44
(*1137)	1150	32	52½	66½	40	57	66
Zeneca	850	47	57½	69	23	41	49½
(*860)	900	20½	34	40½	51	69½	77

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Grnd Met	390	28½	37½	43½	1½	11	15
(*416)	420	9	19½	27½	11½	24½	29
Ladbroke	140	13	19	22	1	4½	7½
(*151)	160	2	9	12½	10½	14	16½
Utd Bisc	300	12	23½	27½	4½	10	19
(*305½)	330	1½	10½	14½	25	27½	38

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
BAA	500	27	35½	46	11	15½	20½
(*515)	525	14½	25	—	23	27½	—
Thames W	500	39½	52½	60	10½	15½	25½
(*532½)	550	14	27	34	35	40½	51

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
BAT Ind	420	24	34	49½	3½	11½	23½
(*448½)	460	5	19	25	23½	31	45
BTR	300	12½	22½	27	4	10	17
(*307)	330	1½	9	14	23½	27½	34½
Br Aero	420	36	51	59	7½	19	27½
(*445½)	460	14½	30½	40	26½	37	48
Br Telecm	390	11	17½	26	6	16	19½
(*397½)	420	1½	7	13½	27	36½	36½
Cadbury	420	30	33½	36½	2½	9	19
(*436½)	460	2	14	19½	25	29½	40
Guinness	460	14½	25	35½	5	12½	21½
(*468)	500	1	11	17	32	36	44½
GEC	260	20	24	29½	0½	5	7½
(*277)	290	6½	12½	18	6½	12	16
Hanson	220	13	17	20	1½	6	10
(*230½)	240	2	7½	10½	10½	16½	20½
LASMO	134	17	—	—	0½	—	—
(*150)	154	3½	—	—	7½	—	—
Lucas	190	14½	20	24	1½	5½	9
(*192½)	200	3½	9½	14	10½	15	19
Pilkingtn	190	14	17	21	1	5	8
(*193)	200	2	7	11	10	15	18
Prudential	300	20	29	33	2	7	13
(*317)	330	3	13	17	14	20	25
Redland	460	16	33½	41	7½	17½	32
(*466)	500	2½	16	22½	34½	40	57
Royal Ins	280	16½	27	33½	4	11	17½
(*291½)	300	6½	16½	22½	13½	20	27½
Tesco	230	16	23½	28	1	4	10
(*234½)	240	2½	11½	17½	9	14	16½
Vodafone	200	14	20½	27	2	7½	10
(*211½)	217	4½	11½	—	9	15½	—
Williams	325	21½	—	—	1	—	—
(*344½)	354	4	—	—	12	—	—

FT-SE INDEX (*3097)

	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200
Calls						
Nov	148	122½	84	53	30½	15
Dec	189½	153	116	87	63½	42
Jan	214½	179	146	116	90½	67
Feb	230½	194	164	135	108	87
Jun	—	245½	—	184½	—	139
Puts						
Nov	10½	17	29	48	76½	112½
Dec	30	44	56	90	107	137½
Jan	46½	62	80½	101	124	152
Feb	56½	69	91	109½	134½	162½
Jun	—	105	—	142½	—	192

	Series	Calls Dec	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Puts Dec	Puts Mar	Puts Jun
Abby Natl	390	32½	42	46	4½	13½	18½
(*415½)	420	14	24½	29½	15	28	32
Amstrad	25	4½	5½	6½	0½	1½	2
(*29½)	30	1½	3	4	2	4	4½
Barclays	550	44½	56	65	7	18½	25½
(*593)	600	15½	30	39½	27½	43	50½
Blue Circ	280	15	22	28	9	13½	21
(*283)	300	6½	13½	19	20½	24½	32½
Br Gas	280	19½	26½	31	4	9	15
(*292)	300	7½	15½	20½	12½	17	25
Dixons	180	21	25½	30½	3	9	11
(*196½)	200	9½	14½	20	10½	17	20½
Forte	220	16	22½	26½	5	7	13
(*230)	240	6	12	16½	15	16½	22½
Hillsdwn	160	13	18	20½	3	6	10
(*168½)	180	3½	8½	11	13½	16	21½
Lonrho	130	9	12½	15½	5	10	11½
(*132)	140	4½	9½	11½	10½	16	17
Sears	100	9½	12	14	1	3½	5½
(*107)	110	4	7	8½	5	6	10½
Thrn EMI	950	48½	63	66	13½	31	36½
(*974½)	1000	21½	37½	58	36	53	60½
Tomkins	200	16	20½	25	4	9½	10½
(*210)	220	5½	10½	15	13½	18½	21
TSB	220	14	19	23	5½	12	15
(*226)	240	5½	9	14	17	23½	26½
Wellcome	600	56½	75	85½	11	23	33½
(*646)	650	28	47	59	31½	44½	57

	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo	550	64	76	90½	9	21½	27
(*595½)	600	32½	48	59½	27½	43	49½
HSBC	700	56½	71	83½	22½	44	53½
(*726)	750	31	46½	59½	47	71½	81½
Reuter	460	35	44½	53½	12	20	25
(*478)	500	16	25	34	32½	41	47

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
R-Royce	160	16½	22½	25½	0½	4	7½
(*175)	180	3½	11	14½	6	12	17

	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Fisons	110	10½	15	19	4	6½	8½
(*117)	120	6	10	14½	6½	11½	15½

	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Eastern Gp	750	51½	72	90½	10½	29½	37½
(*795½)	800	20½	46	64½	30	51	60

	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Natl Pwr	460	42	53½	65	5	12½	20½
(*497½)	500	16	30½	42	19½	29½	36
Scot Pwr	330	37½	44	51½	4½	12	16
(*359½)	360	18	27	35½	15½	24½	29½

October 31, 1994 Tot: 31332 Call: 15817 Put: 15615 FT-SE Call: 7961 Put: 11714
*Underlying security price.

WALL STREET

	Oct 31 midday	Oct 28 close
AMP Inc	75¾	76¼
AMR Corp	54¾	55¼
AT & T	54¾	54¼
Abbott Labs	31¼	31⅛
Aetna Life	46	46¼
Ahmanson (HF)	19	19¼
Air Prod & Chem	47¾	47¼
Albertson's	30	29¾
Alcan Alumium	26¾	27
Alco Standard	57¾	57¼
Allied Signal	34¼	34¾
Alum Co of Am	86	85¼
Amax Gold Inc	6¾	6¼
Amerada Hess	50	50¾
Amer Brands	34¾	35¼
Amer Cyanamid	98¼	97¼
Amer El Power	31¼	32
Amer Express	30¼	31
Amer Genl Corp	27¾	27¼
Amer Home Pr	63¾	63¼
Amer Intl	93¾	94¼
Amer Stores	26¾	26¼
Ameritech	40¾	40¼
Amoco	63¼	63¾
Anheuser-Busch	51	51
Apple Computer	41¼	42¾
Archer Daniels	28¼	29
Armco	7	6¾
Armstrng Wrld	41¼	41¼
Asarco	31¼	31¼
Ashland Oil	38¾	39¼
Atl Richfield	107¾	107¾
Auto Data Pro	58¾	57¼
Avery Dennison	33¼	33¼
Avon Products	63¾	63¾
Baker Hughes	20¾	20¼
Baltim Gas & El	23¾	23¼
Banc One	28¾	28¼
BankAmerica	43¾	43¼
Bank of NY	31¾	31¼
Bankers Tr NY	67	67
Barnett Banks	41¾	41¼
Bausch & Lomb	32¼	32¾
Baxter Intl	26¾	26¼
Becton Dcknsn	47¾	47¼
Bell Atlantic	52¼	52¾
BellSouth	52¾	52¼
Black & Decker	24¼	24¼
Block (H&R)	45	45
Boeing	44	43¾
Boise Cascade	26¼	27¼
Borden Inc	13¼	13¼
Bristol Myrs Sq	59¾	58¼
Browning Ferris	31¼	31¼
Brunswick	20¾	20¾
Burlington Nthn	49¾	50¼
CBS	59	59¾
CNA Financial	62¾	62¾
CPC Intl	53¾	52¾
CSX	73¾	73¼
Campbell Soup	41¾	41¾
Can Pacific	16	16¼
Cptl Cities ABC	83¾	82¼
Carolina Pwr	26¼	26¼
Caterpillar	59¾	59¼
Central & SW	22¼	22¼
Champion Intl	37¼	38
Chase Manhat	35¾	35¼
Chemical Bk	37	37¼
Chevron Corp	45¼	45¼
Chrysler	48¼	47¼
Chubb Corp	69¼	70
Cigna Corp	66¼	67
Citicorp	47	47
Clorox	54¼	53¾
Coastal Corp	28¾	28¼
Coca Cola	50¼	50¼
Colgate-Palmolive	60¼	60¼
Columbia Gas	27¼	27¼
Compaq Comp	40¼	40¼
Comp Ass Intl	49¾	49¼
Conagra	31¼	31¼
Cons Edison	24¾	25¼
Cons Nat Gas	36¼	36¼
Cons Rail	54¼	54¼
Cooper Inds	38	38
Corning Inc	33¼	33¼
Crown Cork	39	39¼
Dana Corp	25¼	25¼
Dayton Hudson	78¼	78¼
Deere	72¼	73¼
Delta Air Lines	51¼	51¼
Deluxe Corp	28¼	28¼
Detroit Edison	26¼	26¼
Digital Equip	30¼	31¼
Dillard Dept St	26¼	26¼
Disney (Walt)	40	40
Dominion Res	37¼	37¼
Donelley (RR)	31¼	32
Dover Corp	55¼	56¼
Dow Chemical	74¼	74¼
Dow Jones	30¼	30¼
Dresser	21	21¼
Duke Power	39¼	39¼
Dun & Bradstreet	58¼	57¼
Du Pont	60¼	60¼
Eastman Kodak	48	48¼
Eaton Corp	53¼	52¼
Emerson Elec	61¼	61¼
Engelhard Corp	23¼	23¼
Enron Corp	32¼	32¼
Entergy	23¾	24¼
Ethyl Corp	11¼	11¼
Exxon	63¼	62¾
FMC Corp	61¾	61¼
FPL Group	33¼	33¾
Federal Express	61¼	61
Fed Nat Mtge	76¾	77¼
First Chicago	49¼	50
First Interstate	79¾	80¼
First Union Rlty	7¼	7¼
Fleet Finl Grp	34¾	34¼
Fluor Corp	49¾	49¼
Ford Motor	29¾	29¼
GTE Corp	30¾	31
Gannett	48	48¼
Gap Inc Del	33¼	33¼
Gen Dynamics	42¼	42¼
Gen Electric	49	49¼
Gen Mills	56¼	56¼
Gen Motors	39¼	40¼
Gen Reinsurance	110¼	110¼
Gen Signal	35¼	35¼
Genuine Parts	36¼	36
Georgia Pac	74¾	74¼
Gillette	74¾	74¼
Glaxo ADR	19¼	19¼
Goodrich (BF)	44¼	44¼
Goodyear Tire	34¼	34¼
Grace (W&R)	39¼	38¼
Grt Atl Pac Tea	26	25¼
Great Wstn Fin	17¼	18¼
Halliburton	36¼	36¼
Harcourt General	37¼	37¼
Heinz (HJ)	36¼	36¼
Hercules	115¼	117¼
Hershey Foods	47¼	47¼
Hewlett Packard	98	97¼
Hilton Hotels	60¼	60¼
Home Depot	45¼	45¼
Homestake Mng	19¼	19
Honeywell	32¼	32¼
Household Intl	35¼	35¼
Houston Inds	34¼	34¼
Humana	24¼	24¼
ITT Corp	84¼	84¼
Illinois Tool	44¼	44¼
Illinova	19¼	19¼
INCO	30	30¼
Ingersoll Rand	35¼	35¼
Inland Steel	36¼	35¼
Intel Corp	62¼	62¼
IBM	75	76¼
Intl Flav & Fr	43¼	43¼
Intl Paper	75¼	76¼
James River Va	22¼	23
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	56	55
Kellogg	59	59¼
Kerr-McGee	48¼	48¼
Kimberly-Clark	51¼	51¼
Kmart	16¼	16¼
Knight-Ridder	51¼	51¼
Lilly (Eli)	61¼	60¼
Limited Inc	18¼	18¼
Lin Brdcstng	137¼	136¼
Lincoln Nat	36¼	35¼
Litton	37	37¼
Liz Claiborne	23	23¼
Lockheed	71¼	71¼
Louisiana Pac	30¼	31¼
MCI Cmmn	23	22¼
Marriott Int	29	29¼
Marsh & McLnn	75	75
Masco Corp	23¼	23¼
May Dept St	37¼	38¼
Maytag Corp	16	15¼
McDonalds	28¼	28¼
McDonnell D	141¼	141¼
McGraw Hill	73¼	72¼
Mead Corp	50	50
Medtronic	53¼	52¼
Mellon Bk	35¼	35¼
Melville Corp	33¼	34
Merck Inc	36¼	36
Merrill Lynch	39¼	39¼
Minnesota Mine	55¼	54¼
Mobil Corp	86¼	86
Monsanto	77¼	77¼
Morgan (JP)	61¼	61¼
Motorola Inc	58¼	58¼
Natl Medical	14¼	14¼
Natl Semi	17¼	17¼
Natl Service Ind	27¼	27¼
Navistar Int	13	13
NBD Bancorp	30¼	30¼
NY Times A	22¼	22¼
Newmont Mng	41¼	40¼
Niag Mohawk	13¼	13¼
Nike B	61	61¼
NL Industries	12¼	12¼
Noram Energy	6	6¼
Nordstrom	48¼	48¼
Norfolk Sthrn	63¼	64¼
Nthn State Pwr	44¼	44¼
Norwest Corp	24¼	25
Nynex Corp	39¼	39
Occidental Pet	21¼	21¼
Ohio Edison	19¼	19¼
Oracle Systems	46	45¼
Oryx Energy Co	14¼	14¼
Owens Corning	32¼	32
PNC Financial	23¼	23¼
PPG Industries	41¼	40¼
Paccar Inc	45¼	44¼
Pacificorp	17¼	17¼
Pac Enterprises	21¼	21¼
Pac Gas & Elec	22¼	22¼
Pac Telesis	32	31¼
Pall Corp	18¼	18¼
Panhandle East	23¼	23¼
Parker Hannifin	46¼	46¼
Peco Energy	25¼	25¼
Penney (JC)	50¼	51¼
Pennzoil	52¼	52¼
Pepsico	35	35¼
Pfizer	74¼	73¼
Phelps Dodge	62¼	61¼
Philip Morris	61¼	64
Phillips Pet	36¼	36¼
Pitney Bowes	33¼	33¼
Polaroid	34	33¼
PriceCostco	15¼	15¼
Procter & Gmbl	64	64¼
Providian	31¼	31¼
Pub Serv E & G	26¼	26¼
Quaker Oats	74¼	75¼
Ralston Purina	42¼	42¼
Raychem Corp	37	36¼
Raytheon	63¼	63¼
Reebok Intl	39¼	39¼
Reynolds Metals	54¼	55¼
Roadway Srvcs	57¼	57
Rockwell Intl	35	34¼
Rohm & Haas	60	60¼
Royal Dutch	116¼	116¼
Rubbermaid	27¼	27¼
Safeco Corp	49¼	50¼
St Paul's Cos	43¼	43¼
Salomon Inc	41¼	41¼
Santa Fe Pac	15¼	14¼
Sara Lee Corp	24¼	25
Scecorp	14	13¼
Schering Plough	72	70¼
Schlumberger	58¼	58¼
Scott Paper	66¼	67¼
Seagram	30¼	30¼
Sears Roebuck	48¼	48¼
Shell Trans	71¼	71¼
Sherwin Wlms	33	33
Skyline Corp	19¼	19¼
Snap-On-Tools	31¼	32¼
Southern Co	19¼	20
Stwestern Bell	41¼	41¼
Sprint Corp	32¼	32¼
Stanley Works	39¼	39¼
Sun Company	32¼	32
Sun Microsys	33¼	34
Suntrust	50¼	50¼
Supervalu	24¼	24¼
Sysco Corp	24¼	24¼
TRW Inc	71	70¼
TCC Inds	2¼	2¼
Tandem Comp	17¼	18¼
Tandy Corp	44¼	44
Teledyne	17¼	17
Temple Inland	48¼	49
Tenneco	44¼	45¼
Texaco	65¼	64¼
Texas Inst	74¼	75
Texas Utilities	33	33¼
Textron	51¼	51¼
Time Warner	35¼	35¼
Times-Mirror	32¼	32¼
Timken	35	35¼
Torchmark	37¼	37¼
Toys R Us	38¼	38¼
Transamerica	48¼	48¼
Travelers	34¼	34¼
Tribune	52	52
Tyco Labs	47¼	47¼
UST Inc	26¼	26¼
UAL	94	95¼
USX Marathon	18¼	18¼
Unicom	21¼	21¼
Unilever NV	118¼	118¼
Union Camp	47¼	48¼
Union Carbide	33¼	33¼
Union Pacific	48¼	49¼
Unisys Corp	10¼	10¼
USAIR Group	4¼	4¼
USF&G Corp	13¼	13¼
US Life	32¼	32¼
US West	37¼	38
United Tech	63	62¼
Unocal Corp	29¼	29¼
Upjohn	33	32¼
VF Corp	50¼	50¼
WMX Tech	29¼	29¼
Wal-Mart Stores	23¼	23¼
Warner-Lambert	75¼	74¼
Wells Fargo	149¼	149¼
Westinghouse El	13¼	14¼
Weyerhaeuser	39¼	39¼
Whirlpool	51¼	51¼
Whitman	16¼	16¼
Winn Dixie	53¼	53¼
Woolworth	15¼	15¼
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	45¼	45
Xerox	103¼	104
Yellow Corp	19¼	19¼

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Wilde Sapte on the move

WILDE Sapte, the law firm, clearly knows when it is on to a good thing. Hard on the heels of last month's High Court victory, in which the firm acted for the 3,096 Gooda Walker names, the firm has opened a new office in the shadow of the Lloyd's building. Even more disturbing for market miscreants is its decision to appoint Adrian Mecz to run the new branch at 40 Lime Street. Mecz, who is described in Wilde Sapte's blurb as a "top investigative lawyer" with "a formidable reputation among underwriters, brokers and loss adjusters", arrives from the firm of Bigham Englar Jones Houston. Anyone looking for hints about further litigation or out-of-court settlements will note his appointment with more than passing interest.

Breakfast party

ARE they crazy? Camelot has decided to throw a "momentous and spectacular" National Lottery launch party at 6.15am on Monday 14 November, the day tickets go on sale before that Saturday's inaugural televised draw. Journalists who wake up in time will mingle with politicians and celebrities at the bash, to be held at the Tower of London. "It's going to be very celebratory," gushed a spokeswoman. So why the unearthly hour? "We wanted to tie in with the 7am launch of ticket sales."

Excuses, excuses

NOW: some fresh excuses for not paying those nasty bills. A financial adviser in the North East told Barclays Bank that his office had been ram-raided and the accounts records were "under a Ford Cortina". A South Wales engineering firm said a "goat had eaten the invoices and the cheque-book". An East Anglian vehicle repair firm offered a re-spray instead of cash. And a printing company announced that the finance director was out of the office — paying the sales' director's bail.



"It's the design for this year's Christmas stamps."

Plan emerging

SALOMON Brothers has hired a Russian expert to boost is presence in the former Iron Curtain states. Jim Dannis, a partner in Cleary Gottlieb for the past five years, becomes a special co-ordinator of Salomon's activities in the equity markets of Russia and the countries of the former Soviet Union. He will work with Bob Ludwig, head of emerging markets proprietary trading, and Debra Schinasi, head of emerging markets equities, to develop a co-ordinated strategic plan.

JIM Furlong, the City headhunter, who surfaced in this column on Friday, hoping for his 13th win of the year at Newmarket on Saturday, enjoyed only partial success. Number 13 did, indeed, come up. Unfortunately, it was where his horse, Toujours Riviera, came in. "It rained," grunts Furlong. Makes a change from leaves on the track.

JON ASHWORTH

Does competition still offer the best form of defence?

The rival bids for the Barrow shipyard present the MoD with a dilemma. Ross Tieman reports

How many manufacturers of warships can Britain afford? Or how few? What is the best way to structure Britain's defence manufacturing industry to ensure our armed services get the best kit at the lowest possible price for the foreseeable future?

The bid battle for VSEL, the Barrow-in-Furness shipbuilder, has triggered a bout of unprecedented mental gymnastics at the Ministry of Defence. In the upper corridors of the green-roofed building on Whitehall, Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, and his advisers are being obliged to confront the responsibilities they have skirted around for so long.

No longer can the minister and his procurement chiefs pretend that "market forces" should define the ownership of defence manufacturing. This time they will have to choose whether competition, or concentration, will prove the best route to value for money.

The issues are simple enough. Concentration has been the name of the game among Britain's arms-makers for half a century. Some governments used to encourage it. In the 1960s, ministers took away GEC's aerospace activities, pumped them into a nationalised British Aerospace, and created a monopoly supplier of warplanes. Britain's shipyards were nationalised too, making a single supplier of warships.

But indifferent management and ministerial meddling undermined faith in nationalisation. The businesses were privatised, and obliged to fight for contracts by competitive bidding.

The rising complexity and cost of big weapons systems such as ships and aircraft has merely accelerated the concentration of expertise. Two companies have come to dominate Britain's defence industry: BAe is Britain's sole remaining builder of warplanes and dominates output of missiles and ordnance. GEC, running hard in second place, specialises in electronics and warships.

Both are world-class companies but they face a grave problem. Even before the end of the Cold War, Britain was becoming too small to command economic production runs for many sophisticated weapons systems.

In aircraft, European joint projects like the Tornado and its successor, Eurofighter, became the norm. Now ships are following suit. The Navy's next frigate will be a joint project between Britain, France and Italy.

But international collaboration on design offers only a fraction of the potential savings. To compete with the Americans, European defence manufacturers have to achieve comparable economies in production costs.

To that end, GEC is already operating in a joint venture with Thomson of France to design submarine-hunting sonar units. BAe, meantime, is talking to Matra, of France, about combining their missile businesses, and to GIAT, the French tank-maker, about a similar move on guns and ammunition. In effect, British and French armaments industries are heading for a merger.

The emphasis at the MoD has subtly shifted. The ministry used to design weapons, hire contractors to make the sub-systems and try to manage the programmes itself. As weapons became more complex, cost overruns and system under-performance became the order of the day.

Now the MoD is edging towards the belief that the taxpayer, and the services, are best served by hiring one or two "prime contractors" to design and deliver a complete weapon, at a fixed price. If all goes well, the contractor makes a decent profit. If not, it could lose its shirt, or worse.

Swan Hunter, the warship builder that delivers its last frigate, HMS Richmond, to the Royal Navy on Friday, suffered just that fate. Undercapitalised, it suffered heavy cost overruns on an Antarctic survey ship then collapsed when it was undercut for the next MoD contract by VSEL.

The loss of Swan and the closure of VSEL's Cammel Laird yard, at Birkenhead, have left Britain with just three warship construction yards. Each is specialised, and separately owned. VSEL builds submarines and finishes larger surface ships assembled by a civil yard. Kvaerner Govan, Yarrow Shipbuilders, the Clyde yard owned by GEC, is Britain's frigate specialist. And Vosper Thornycroft, at Southampton, focuses on smaller craft such as minehunters and corvettes.

In their £500 million bid battle for VSEL, GEC and BAe share a simple ambition. They are vying for the role of Britain's main prime contractor in the supply of warships.

VSEL is the easy favourite to win the £2.5 billion order for the second batch of Trafalgar nuclear-powered hunter-killer submarines — provided it is sufficiently well capitalised — plus orders for two big assault ships. BAe believes it can bring its systems and programme-management skills to bear on warships, and restore its balance sheet with VSEL's cash pile. GEC has been steadily extending its naval systems interests, snapping up Plessey and Ferranti activities and winning lead role on the future frigate programme. Tentative discussions with VSEL about a closer relationship have been under way for more than a year.

BAe's bid for VSEL, if successful, would scupper GEC's ambition to dominate the industry. GEC was keen to respond, yet feared any offer for VSEL would be rejected by the MoD as anti-competitive. But after weeks of intense lobbying, it now seems the minister is not convinced that competition is the best option.

The MoD can block either bid, through the Monopolies Commission or, more simply, through its ownership of an all-powerful "golden share" in VSEL. Without the MoD's consent to a change in the articles of association of VSEL, no one can own more than 15 per cent of the business.

Yet the MoD's willingness to obstruct GEC, which was widely assumed only a few weeks ago, appears to have dissipated.

According to GEC: "The MoD has confirmed that, if VSEL shareholders approve the necessary amendments, then subject to receipt of the relevant regulatory approvals and satisfactory assurances from GEC on certain issues, the secretary of state will also give his consent."

Top of the list of assurances sought by the MoD, says GEC, is a promise that facilities for building nuclear submarines will remain in British control — which really does not sound too tough for GEC to sign up to.

A special meeting of VSEL shareholders has been called for November 9 to consider similar amendments to the articles of association in response to the BAe offer. Now a second meeting will be held to review GEC's proposals.

Noel Davies, chief executive of VSEL, says that the Barrow shipyard and its employees will have better prospects as part of a larger group, which ever wins. "As far as BAe and GEC are concerned, I don't think there is much to chose between them," he said. Both would retain Barrow's modern submarine-building facilities and seek to increase throughput by winning more export orders.

And GEC has been at pains to dismiss any suggestion that concentration will lead to substantial rationalisation at either Barrow or its own Yarrow Shipbuilders on the Clyde.

Financially, the bidding could go to a second round. Analysts at County NatWest estimate that BAe could pay up to £18 a share in paper for VSEL without dilution of earnings, against their sighting shot of some £13. GEC, with £14 on the table in cash and 15 per cent of the shares netted in a dawn raid, is close to its dilution ceiling, but could afford to buy VSEL for cash, several times over.

But this is a test case. If the MoD gives approval for GEC to buy VSEL, the pretence of competition among UK prime contractors will be stripped bare. The scene will be set for a renewed surge of rationalisation in the United Kingdom's defence industry.

The next move by GEC could be on BAe itself.



HMS Vanguard, the first Trident submarine, is rolled out at Barrow

Crisis is the name of the game at Spurs

A curse seems to hang over the north London football club, says Jon Ashworth

The stylus on the warped Tottenham Hotspur LP has been stuck in the same groove for longer than its fans care to remember. From the moment Irving Scholar came on the scene 12 years ago, the north London football club has lurched from one crisis to another.

Mr Scholar, a Monaco-based property developer, seized on the chaos surrounding building work at the White Hart Lane stadium to mount a takeover bid. Construction costs on the west stand had pushed the club to the brink of financial disaster and forced the resignation of Sidney Wale, the long-standing chairman.

His successor, Arthur Richardson, fought a rearguard action as Mr Scholar and Paul Bobroff, his associate, began buying Spurs shares. By Christmas 1982, they had won control, and inherited a debt of £5 million, the largest in English football history.

Management practices were found to be hopelessly old-fashioned. There were stories about a missing £500,000 in gate receipts. The new team took Spurs public and launched a push into leisurewear. They were joined on the board by Tony Berry, then riding high at the Blue Arrow employment agency. Terry Venables, who had taken Barcelona to the European Cup final, was recruited as manager in 1987, and began buying world-class players, including Paul Gascoigne and Gary Lineker.

> Money was said to have changed hands at motorway petrol stations

Then the curse of Tottenham Hotspur struck again. The Hummel sports and leisurewear franchise was losing money. Building costs — the east stand, this time — were rising fast.

By 1989, friction between the two former allies erupted into a boardroom clash. Mr Bobroff tried to have Mr Scholar ousted — only to resign himself after Mr Berry took sides against him. To confuse matters further, he was reinstated as chairman. By the time fans gathered for the annual meeting in December, a horribly familiar picture was beginning to emerge. Tottenham had spent £9.5 million in transfer fees over two years. Work on the east stand had cost up to £7 million. Enter Robert Maxwell. Mr Scholar, who had been friends with the publisher for some years, devised a scheme under which Maxwell would inject £13 million into Spurs in return for a minimum 25.1 per cent stake.

Word of the confidential talks leaked to the press. It emerged that Maxwell had effectively lent £1.1 million to the club through an unsecured loan to Mr Scholar's private company — a transaction that should have been ratified by shareholders — and, in October 1990, Mr Scholar resigned from the board of directors. Tottenham Hotspur shares were suspended at 91p.

The scene was set for the deal that has so captivated investigative reporters. Mr Venables tried to head off Maxwell by teaming up with Alan Sugar, the chairman of Amstrad, who had an interest in televised football through supplying satellite dishes to BSkyB. Their £7.5 million takeover bid was initially topped by Maxwell, but control was clinched in June 1991, after Mr Scholar sold his key 26 per cent stake. Mr Sugar, with 43 per cent of the shares, was appointed non-executive chairman. Mr Venables, who had invested £3 million through Edennote, his private company, became the chief executive.

The honeymoon was soon over. By late 1992, rumours were swirling that Mr Sugar and Mr Venables had fallen out. Mr Sugar abruptly sacked Mr Venables in May 1993, only to see him dramatically reinstated at the behest of the High Court. A vicious tussle began, with allegations of bags of money — or "bungs" — being handed over in motorway service stations. Mr Venables later gave up the fight. In September 1993 came the first *Panorama* programme, alleging that Mr Venables had unlawfully obtained a £1 million loan during his bid for Spurs.

This summer, Tottenham Hotspur was fined £1.5 million, docked six Premiership points and banned from the FA Cup for making irregular payments to players during the 1980s. Long-suffering fans must wonder what else lies ahead.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Building societies are not withholding information

From the Chairman, The Building Societies Association

Sir, Your article "Exposing the Secret Societies" (October 20) suggests that building societies offer their members only "a scanty annual report" and that societies are seeking to send less information to members in the form of shortened reports. This is not accurate.

Building societies send their members abbreviated annual reports, in line with the requirements of building society legislation, with a full annual report available on request from any branch. In this respect, they are similar to plcs, which have the option of circulating their shareholders with either a summary financial statement or a full report and accounts. Building societies, moreover, are obliged to hold a vote of their members when seeking to extend their powers. A society cannot move into a new market without informing its members and obtaining their agreement.

Building societies are not seeking legislative change so as to enable them to send less information to their members. Rather, the Financial Services Deregulation Task Force put forward the idea that societies should be able to enter new markets following a vote of the board rather than of the entire membership, and that societies should, with the agreement of their members, stop circulating members with summary financial statements unless individual members indicated that they wished to receive such information.

In its response to the latest Treasury document on the review of building society legislation, this association will urge the Treasury to abandon these ideas, as they are not consistent with the accountability that building society directors believe they owe their members.

Pennington also suggests that "the banks offer competitive savings and mortgage rates and manage to pay their shareholders a dividend". This is not in accordance with the facts. In 1990, the banks attracted £12 billion of new savings from individual savers, including interest credited. By 1993, this figure had fallen to zero. The comparative figures for building societies were £18 billion and £11 billion.

Market research undertaken on behalf of this association this year showed that 19 per cent of those interviewed felt that banks offered competitive returns for savings, compared with 44 per cent who disagreed. The equivalent figures for building societies were 59 and 13 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
D. H. KIRKHAM,
Chairman,
The Building Societies Association,
3 Savile Row, W1.

Don't blame trustees for pensions fiasco

From Mark Lloyd

Sir, It was grossly unfair to criticise pension fund trustees in your article on the just-published SIB personal pension report (Pennington, October 26).

When personal pensions were first introduced, many trustees foresaw the opportunities for mis-selling by personal pension salesmen but were largely helpless to take action to advise members and potential members due to the constraints of the (then) new Financial Services Act. However, many did try to promote the company scheme in an unbiased manner.

A large proportion of trustees are not remunerated for their (onerous) responsibilities and in my experience perform their duties extremely conscientiously. It does not seem justified to criticise them in this way.

Yours sincerely
MARK LLOYD,
Buck Consultants
10 Buckingham Place, SW1.

From Mrs Jane Marshall

Sir, The offhand remark by Pennington, following the publication of the SIB report into the mis-selling of personal pensions, that "pension trustees' heads should roll" is rather puzzling.

Most trustees and their sponsoring employers were dismayed at the prospect of members leaving good occupational schemes or electing not to join them. Many undertook expensive communications exercises to explain what their company scheme offered. All were inhibited to some degree by the provisions of the Financial Services Act, which requires formal authorisation before advice can be given on the merits of different products.

Now the chickens have come home to roost, and trustees faced with requests for reinstatement by members should not be castigated if they tread warily. Their overwhelming duty remains to the great bulk of scheme members who did not succumb to the blandishments of insurance salesmen.

Yours faithfully
JANE MARSHALL
Hammond Suddards
Solicitors
Moor House
119 London Wall, EC2.

Neds need to be more involved

From Professor Samuel Eilon

Sir, The call of Lord Alexander of Weedon for increased regulation of company directors is welcome. There have been too many cases in recent years where directors failed to intervene in time to prevent financial catastrophes and in some cases even wrongdoing. The role of non-executive directors in this context is relevant and their general lack of financial skills is cited as one reason for this failure.

But there are two other inter-linked causes: first, non-executive directors are not always provided with full and timely information on the company's operations and future commitments, and there are many instances where relevant information is purposely withheld from them. Secondly, these directors are often paid a pittance and consequently they spend very little time on the company's affairs. It is not uncommon to find directors turning up just for board meetings and nodding through a host of items they have had little opportunity to examine, whereas a proper, thorough execution of their duties, allowing them to investigate operations in depth outside the board meetings, coupled with full access to all the company's records would realistically require non-executive directors to devote a day a week to their duties in a largish company. If these directors were allowed to operate in this way chief executives would greatly benefit from their counsel and the incidence of company failure would decline.

Yours faithfully,
SAMUEL EILON,
Imperial College,
1 Meadway Close, NW1.

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Early gains trimmed at close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380	Abbey Nat	416	- 5	4.7	14.6
314	223	Allied Irish	296	+ 2	5.8	9.7
247	172½	Bank Scotland	234	- 1	3.3	11.5
648	487	Barclays	585	+ 1	3.6	10.6
319	246	Bk of Ireland	296	+ 2	6.0	7.3
286½	200	Close Bros	286		4.0	...
6150p	4121p	Commercial	6130p	+ 25p	6.2	...
1296p	1066p	Dbt Ire Yule Y	1171p	+ 28p	9.6	...
2344p	1270p	Deutsche Bk	1259p	+ 19p	4.2	...
1315½	931½	Espirito Sante	859½	- 34½	4.3	4.5
90	60	First Nat Fin	68		2.8	...
1549p	1152p	First State Y	1360	+ 18p	0.4	...
472	289	Hambros	416	+ 5	3.8	9.5
1113	699	HSBC	726	+ 8	4.2	18.5
1131	880	HSBC Hld	1019	+ 4½	4.2	18.6
443	292	Joseph (L)	416		5.2	12.2
693½	492	Kleinwort Ben	636	+ 5	3.9	9.6
662	579	Lloyds	574	+ 9	5.8	11.3
630½	472	Nat Aust Bk	588	+ 6	4.8	9.5
522	401	Nat West	507	+ 3	3.8	9.4
3360	2125	Ottoman Bank	2300		6.6	...
78	53	Rea Bros	61		1.9	17.3
528	377½	Rlt Bk Scot	448	+ 1	3.4	19.9
1574	1050	Schroders	1360	+ 25	1.7	12.5
1458	1043	Schroder NV	1268	+ 17	1.8	11.5
114	75	Singer & Fried	78		3.8	10.0
359½	257	Smart Char	350	+ 3	2.7	10.1
291	197	TSB	256	+ 7	4.5	11.4
1012	769	Wagg SG	813	+ 8	4.5	7.4
2105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9200	+187½	2.9	...
360	194	Westpac	205½	+ 1½	2.7	...
390	210	Wintrust	218	+ 3	5.9	14.6

BREWERIES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
14½	11½	Accnt Hldgs	12			
619	485	Bass	557	+ 4	4.7	14.6
393	280	Beckingham	294	+ 1	4.1	13.7
196	160	Burtonwd Brw	168		3.4	15.5
191	142	Shrdge F 'A'	168		2.7	23.3
66	48½	Fosters Brewing	55		0.0	...
493	360	Full Sn 'A'	398		2.6	15.7
511	388	Greenalls Gp	474	+ 4	3.4	15.8
584	452	Greene King	529		3.0	14.7
76	58	Hallet Hldgs	66	+ 1		50.7
385	259	Hardy Hanson	366		3.3	13.3
208	154	Heavitree	195		3.4	13.5
3723	3126	Irish Ale	3539	- 10	1.7	19.5
246	195	Mcmullen	227		2.4	13.9
314	256	Morlon Thmp	307		2.4	13.9
545	463	Morland	508		3.5	17.0
196½	6½	Paramount	7½			
274	208	Regnts Wnkf	256	- 1	2.5	...
591	477	Scot & Newc	518	+ 1	4.1	15.4
386	292	Wds Greng	358		4.2	15.1
429	324½	Wetherspoon JDt	403	+ 2½	2.0	...
617	494	Whitbread	572	+ 15	4.1	16.6
583	493	Wolvrhmptn D	536	+ 1	3.7	14.8
288	188	Yates Brew	273		2.2	21.4
535	483	Young 'A'	495		3.6	19.0

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	135	Abbey	145		4.5	10.6
200	146	Allen	165		4.0	19.5
164	97	Arrect	99	+ 1	3.8	57.1
95	47	Ashtenc Sykes	68			
48	36	Aviation	40			
462	350	Ashtead	445		1.5	28.4
191	113	Aspindale	114	- 4	4.8	13.4
41	26	Bailey (Geo) Con	35		2.5	21.4
68	18½	Bardon	57		3.9	4.4
224	161	Barratt Devel	165	- 1	4.5	11.4
169	122½	Beazer Homes	131	+ 1½	4.9	10.8
304	179	Bellway	191	- 1	4.1	18.0
59	34	Berkeley	34			17.7
503	371	Bernicky Gp	375		2.3	16.6
215	118	Bett Bros	169	- 1	2.0	8.4
356	248	Bovis (Henry)	349		3.3	12.2
84	35	Brandon Hire	71		2.6	...
235	180	Br Bldg & Eng	180		5.7	10.9
197½	129	Bryant	135		5.1	13.8
145½	111½	CALA	118		3.0	16.9
54	31	Campbell & Ann	36	- 4	4.0	22.2
62	44	Clarke T	49		3.2	41.6
45	32	Clarke W	42½	- ½		
185	125	Countryside	126		4.1	28.0
115	118	Crest Nicholson	94		2.4	15.6
148	100	Cuisons	108		3.9	13.0
30	19	Edmond Hldgs	19½		1.9	
473	328	Eve Group	328		4.2	13.4
80	47	Galliford	77		4.6	
112	87	Gibbs & Dandy	90		3.8	...
1028	853	Gleeson (M)	940		2.1	...
85	71	Green (Eric)	80		2.4	9.4
191	121	Hemlock Exter	178	- 2	2.1	16.3
188	139	Howard Smert	148		2.5	17.0
144	96	Higgs & Hill	97		3.2	...
32	20	Howard Hldgs	23		4.3	21.5
55	6	Jarvis	10	+ 0½		
328	164	Kellert	210		4.3	12.8
424	304	Lang (J)	397		4.1	21.4
164	90½	Lang G.4% Cv Pf	98½		8.1	...
145	115	Lon Clydesdale	125		4.8	17.3
173	63	Lovell (Y.J)	74			
253	186	Maundrel (JH)	219		3.1	...
321	186	McAlpine (Alf)	190		4.1	29.2
79½	50½	McCarthy & S	57		1.1	...
185½	94	Meadow (J)	102½		2.4	...
379½	265	Pentamaran	268	- 1	5.5	15.7
1800	1450	Pochins	1631½		2.5	...
198	128	Prowting	131		3.3	10.3
118	92	Raine Ind	92		7.2	10.8
87	53	Sir Rbt Mcal	62		3.5	20.5
367	283	Sheriff Hldgs	365		1.9	24.3
112	62½	Sharcot	112		4.1	15.7
345	195	Smart (J)	235		4.7	19.4
280	155½	Speyhiar	248		1.2	19.9
257	191	Tay (Norman)	177	-		
183	114½	Taylor Woodrow	126	+ 0½	1.7	31.3
780	538	Tilbury Douglas	568	+ 3	7.3	43.5
66	36	Tower Hse	56		2.0	29.2
40½	33	Try Group	33		2.7	
116	90	Westgate	114½	+ 1	3.4	30.3
178	129½	Wakefornes	135		4.2	13.6
74	48	Ward Hldgs	59		1.1	
229½	148	Wardbury	156		4.2	17.4
7½	3½	Wiggins	7			
258	171	Wilson (C)	175	- 2	3.0	14.6
511	332	Wilson Bowden	347	- 1	3.4	15.5
349	132	Wimpey Gr	137	- 1	4.8	20.5

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	12	Abingdon	16		3.9	15.3
341	263	Ibuyton Blue	337		2.3	
69½	43½	Amberley Gp	54		2.9	20.5
283	224	BPB Ind	268	- 7	3.4	20.2
142	93	Baggeridge Brk	126		3.1	23.6
80	35½	Bardon	36	+ 0½	6.9	
244	135	Barland Ind	198	+ 3		
93	68	Blackleys	86		1.7	
291	262	Blue Circle	284	+ 3	5.8	20.2
117	77	Brandon PLC	97		6.4	25.6
154	130	Br Dredging	130	- 1½	5.4	15.6
468	321	CRH	344		2.6	17.5
70	31	Caledonian Rfv	41			
317	208	Cape	227		5.8	15.1
455	254	Caradon	286	- 2	4.2	17.6
215½	128	Caradon pf	138	- 0½	7.9	
62	46	Charlton Gp	54		8.1	19.8
124	92	Dyson (Alfd)	95		4.8	
91	75	Dyson 'A'	75		5.8	
11½	4½	Eclipse Blnds	8½	- 0½	2.8	
350	273	Epwin	314	- 1	3.1	18.6
82	57	Ennis	65		2.7	35.6
2380	1307	Hartstead (J)	1721		3.5	
511	384	Hepworth	394	- 2	6.3	16.7
65	46	Hewetson	78	+ 1	2.0	
295	88	Hovell Ltr	88	- 27	2.5	
473	366	Hyndl Wm	387	- 1	5.9	16.2
180	167	Ibstock	76	- 1	1.3	
245	149	Jameson	172	+ 2	4.6	15.5
178	145	Lakefield	155		3.8	16.2
213½	129	Marley	131	+ 2	4.6	15.5
183	126	Marshalls	131	- 1	3.8	17.3
569	369	Meyer Int	512	+ 16	3.5	17.9
196	146	Newman Tonks	162		4.9	20.6
212½	119	Norcros	123	- 1	2.7	22.1
30	9	Phoenix Timbr	12			
292	162	Pilkington	182½	+ 0½	3.6	
135	126	Polypipe	132		3.2	
1079	865	RMC Gp	978	+ 3	3.8	20.0
40	18	Ramac	19			
540	408	Ransomes	466	- 7	5.7	21.5
180	70	Rexhill	98			
185½	114	Rugby Group	130	+ 2½	3.8	19.1
116	62	Russell (Arth)	88	- 1	3.2	18.3
21	16	SWPI	17		1.5	22.7
280	155	Sanders & Fisher	170		3.5	15.3
288	222	Scottish Inch	244	- 2	2.9	19.6
81½	42½	Spong Pens	44	+ 0½	1.6	
236	121	Tarmac	133	- ½	3.6	9.6
228	160	Tilon	160		3.4	13.5
370	274	Travis Perkins	283	- 1	3.5	18.1
28	21	Tunnis	24		1.3	
54	33	Unigreen	39	+ 2		
83	63	Watchhouse	51		3.9	
135	87½	Wickes	99	+ 1	1.8	28.2
59½	33½	Whitacre	39½	+ 1	1.3	24.5
975	766	Wimpey	776	+ 17	2.7	15.0

BUSINESS SERVICES

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3½	1½	Anglia Utd	2			
110	73	App Hdgs	102			
165	104	Ainscoughs	113		5.5	...
11	6½	Bailey (CH)	8½			
48	30	Black Arrow	41		7.9	10.0
124	70	Br Bloodstock	74			66.4
13	9½	Cund Gp	6½			17.4
10½	4½	Chemrz	6½			
157	109	Cossit	135		5.8	
16	12	EPC	13½	- 0½	6.9	8.6
227	180	Ellsford	200		4.5	20.0
282	234	Hunnbsch	247	+ 1	3.2	17.5
248	188	Lorph	188		5.4	17.2
274	234	Nthn Ed	235		3.3	14.6
310	307	Prvte-Mstr	308		2.6	24.0
55	39	Rent & Gen	52		4.3	
185	82	Rentokinde	173		2.5	20.4
12½	9½	Rmb Group	9½			
51½	35	Rodime	39½	- 0½		
272	186	Scapa	203		3.6	17.3
128	78	Shanks & McEwan	93		4.4	
244	174	Sinclair (Wm)	207		5.1	13.4
749	483	Waste Mgt Intl	505	+ 3		12.1

CHEMICALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
6½	1½	Allied Colloids	135	- 0½	2.2	21.7
80	62	Amber Ind	780		2.6	16.2
6 460½	4105½	BASF Ord	4370½	- 330½	7.3	
767	627	BOC	674	- 9	4.3	26.4
273	205	BTP	257		4.2	18.8
1468½	1139½	Bayer DM50	1144	+ 32½	4.3	
131	93	Brent Chemcl	115½		4.5	
309	219	Br Vitrd	236		4.6	17.5
23	18	Cambridge Ind	19			
193	153	Carrwdg (Wm)	182		3.9	30.8
580	429	Courtaulds	445	+ 16	4.5	10.2
388	327	Crodor	353		3.0	15.2
143	95	Doeflex	135		4.8	15.3
62	52½	Exmn Colour	57		2.3	22.0
149	132	Gibson Lyon	139		4.9	13.6
50	31	Hardy(pf)	31		2.6	24.1
233	148	Hickson	148		4.0	13.3
1153½	1108½	Hoechst	1134	+ 34½	3.6	17.7
153	153½	Holliday Chem	217		3.5	17.7
868	726	ICI	798½	+ 9	4.2	64.5
191½	140	Inkon	143	+ 2½	3.8	13.6
845	523	Lporte	696	+ 2	3.5	17.4
95	48	MTM	87		0.8	
455	362	Mandarin	364		4.1	15.0
157	100	McLeod Russel	109		7.0	17.9
138	99	Metalrec	104		4.1	14.1
45	29	Mondelsohn	40	+ 2½	4.9	22.8
149	70	Plasmtrnt	116	- 2	4.9	
349	265	Porvair	345		1.9	22.1
68	31	Scientific Spark	34		1.8	20.3
652½	556	Tokyo Chem	757½	- 4½	2.6	44.3
298	241	Wardle Storeys	411		5.2	21.5
237	193	Wellington Hldgs	193		3.1	18.6
853	573	Wrenthm Pl	785		3.8	16.8
400	330	Yorks Chem	353	- 2	4.6	17.8
336	258	York Cathd	264		3.9	21.6

DISTRIBUTORS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
137	106	ABI Ltn	106		4.6	14.9
256	208	Acal	254		3.0	17.8
519	353	Adam & Harvey	513	+ 5	3.9	7.0
31	22	Alexandrs	30		3.7	21.4
178	117	Applegrad	150		6.0	7.3
8	3½	Asp Br Eng	4½			4.8
576	485	BSS Group	535		4.2	21.9
204½	157	Bearing Power	202½		4.2	14.3
465	355	Blackbby Stf	358		5.1	10.6
40	28	Bngrd 'A'	38		3.1	
24½	17	Bookblad	20		3.6	
710	588	Brammer	648		4.8	18.9
175	116	Bridgend Gp	116		1.8	
119	78	Brit Polthegt	91		3.1	
71	46	Brown & Tawse	58			
135	96	Burndose	96		6.9	10.5
485	358	Caffyns	476		5.3	10.3
71	48	Capital Pic	58½		4.7	10.0
98	78	Chemical Ald	95		4.2	23.5
147	117	Cork (DCI)	130	+ 3	3.1	9.4
346	251	Dwek	314		4.8	10.5
183	137	Dng Motorst	149		5.8	16.1
198	113	Ewbspt Vern	166		2.6	15.5
528	448	Diamond Gp	507	- 1	1.4	12.5
668	445	Diplomat	451		1.5	16.1
588	443	Electrocomponents	468		2.6	20.1
202	137	Electron Hsncy	166		2.6	16.0
283	225	Elks & Sweard	251	- 2	3.6	19.3
234	162	Essentidair	205	- 7	5.2	16.0
173	106	European Ate	110		3.1	13.2
626½	485	Exmo Holdings	600		3.3	14.7
656	485	Farnell Elect	503		2.0	20.5
78	50	Fife Indeur	61		5.5	9.0
18	11	Gardner	18½		5.1	8.7
64	50	Glenchrome	50	- 1		9.4
90	62	Glenmagnt	74		3.4	22.2
345½	286½	Hardys	342		3.4	14.6
78	56	Hobson	74½	+ 1		
191	88	Holdsc Tech	95		7.9	10.3
139	110	ISA Intl	113		1.9	14.1
669	385	Inchcape	486	- 2	4.3	14.5
68	39	Jacks (Wm)	58			13.4
134	105	Jnds (Fin)	130		3.1	18.2
633	500	Lon Scnsor	600		2.7	33.3
182	160	Lowes	160		5.0	12.7
525	450	Lyoleec	515		4.5	11.8
24	17	Mallard Gp	24			
5	3½	Maintenance Id	5			
1049	875	Marsh & McL	1049		2.3	22.4
1111	84	Micro Focus	111		1.4	17.9
1054	811	Norcros Hldgs	1027½		3.4	22.2
204	181	Reins-Rayner	196	+ 0½	2.6	10.5
195	157	Rotork	195		3.4	16.3
190	136	Rowlnsn	190		3.4	13.4
150½	96	Rotoflow	150½		3.3	12.0
270	245	Simon Engr	270		3.7	13.6
633	500	Stahr	633	+ 4½	2.6	17.3
82	26	Sth Hundred	81		2.5	
1455p	1071p	Spirax Sarco	1445p	+ 45p	3.1	16.6
1277p	911	Smiths Ind	1277p		3.1	17.2
448	332	Spirax-Sarcpt	448	+ 8	2.8	18.0
240	197	Sterling Ind	240		3.8	15.4
365	349½	T	365	+ 5½	4.0	19.8
121	92	Tinsley (S)	119		5.0	15.8
105	85	Transfer Tech	96		7.5	7.6
153	139	Tughes Lloyd	139		6.7	
1747	1550	Unilever	1650		3.2	16.4
8118½	6496½	Unilever (NV)	7396½	+ 69½	2.9	14.9
388	293½	Utd Scientific	366	+ 5	6.2	25.0
21	6	Usborne	6	- 1	6.0	4.4
49	34	West Radio	42		4.2	22.2
133	99	Yorkshire Foodt	115	- 1	3.6	13.6

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Advanct	153	+ 4	6.1	15.6
388	192½	Aaldagassn	345	- 3½	1.3	37.9
62	46	Armourd	49½	- 0½		
988	772½	Brakes Hldr	949	+ 15	2.1	38.9
481	299	BTR	307	- 5	5.1	16.2
480	372	BHT	390	- 5	5.9	11.5
91	49	Bibby (J)	59	+ 1	4.2	
57½	44	Brierley Invt	46½	- 1½	8.8	
39	19½	Cannon St	11½			4.4
695	536½	Chester	705	- 3	3.7	21.8
285	225	Cookson	270	+ 3	3.4	21.4
302	217½	Hanson	231	+ 1	6.5	20.7
1635	1220	Dnick	1460		0.9	27.2
3750p	2300	Electrolux 'B'	3196½	- 25	3.7	14.7
389	21	Ems	35		0.4	
3781½	2732½	Ericsson 'B'	3696½	- 26½	1.0	22.2
65	56	Exacmpy	64		3.5	18.9
451	363	Exmillcom	379		1.6	22.4
665	445	Fairey Group	645	+ 3	2.1	19.7
235	194	Forward Gp	194		3.2	11.6
98	14½	Forward Techt	45	+ 1	2.1	9.3
350½	268½	GEC	297	- 1	4.9	13.9
191	119	Gestetner	119		5.7	
191	119	Grandpyt	150		5.0	14.1
193	121	Ind Control	152		5.1	
288	235	Kenwood App	276		3.0	18.0
875	730	Lucchse (A)	865		4.0	19.8
165	36	Matk	63	+ 2	6.1	
488	337	Rollmans	417	+ 1	4.0	22.2
196	137	Slnr Darby	165	+ 4	3.3	17.1
267	197	Staveley	267		5.1	46.5
1688	1355	Siebe V	1688		2.8	15.0
358	220	TT Group	338	- 2	2.3	
383	302	Tomkins	211	+ 0½	4.3	14.4
124	74½	Tubelgar H	83	- 1	1.5	
440	245	Unidare	295		3.8	16.0
382	249½	Wassall	379	+ 1	4.0	24.0
398	300½	Wsm Johnsg	385	+ 4	0.9	62.2
13½	9½	Wilkins	10½			
414½	322	Williams Hldg	345	+ 1	4.7	21.3

ELECTRICITY

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
707	537	East Midlands	686	+ 19	4.7	47.6
856	666	Eastern Elect	786	+ 30	3.6	17.4
753	534	London Elect	725	+ 19	3.9	11.1
871	635	Manweb	807	+ 4	3.8	9.6
848	547	Midlands Elec	785	+ 23	3.7	12.8
1000	724½	National Pwer	907	+ 6	3.1	12.3
858	589	Northern Elec	835	+ 26	3.7	10.5
1274	939	Nthn Ireland	1265	+ 2	3.9	9.2
850	587	Norweb	815	+ 28	3.5	10.7
1000	745	PowerGen	987	+ 8	2.8	12.4
477	362	Hydro-Elect	452	+ 4	4.9	11.8
1000	449	Scottish Power	958	+ 2	4.3	11.4
1000	752	Scotland	952	+ 4	4.3	11.4
848	591	Sth Wales	808	+ 15	3.9	11.1
824	551	Sth Western	786	+ 23	3.7	10.6
837	548	Southern Elec	800	+ 26	3.6	12.5
795	552	Yorkshire Elec	735	+ 17	4.0	14.9

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
109	62	Accnt Comp	82	- 1		
198	163	Alfa	182		3.4	15.0
99	25½	Amstrad†	28½	+ 0½	2.2	
99	34	Arlen	34			
37	26	Azlan	34½	+ 0½	1.3	17.3
281	118	Aztec	132	+ 1	2.8	10.7
476	325	BICC†	335	- 3	7.2	21.2
283	239	Beales Hunter	274	- 1	4.4	
530	400	Bibd	402	- 1	4.2	16.2
590	386	Bowthrpe†	510		3.6	17.8
21½	14½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	17½		1.8	10.3
16	7	Business Tech	8	+ 0½		
283	263	Chll, Micro	276	+ 1	2.8	17.2
354	24	Chloride	35½			21.4
117	81	Coprnicus	115		1.5	16.3
202	154	Cray Elect	176		1.6	20.4
467	412	Cwlchbay	436	+ 3	2.3	19.6
88	54	Data	72		1.7	
368	269	Data Sc Sys	307	+ 2	2.7	26.1
586	431	Dialtel	535		4.2	18.5
550	400	Domino	500		2.0	22.4
78	60	Dowding Mills	64		5.0	23.4
1635	1220	Dnick	1460		0.9	27.2
3750p	2300	Electrolux 'B'	3196½	- 25	3.7	14.7
389	21	Ems	35		0.4	
3781½	2732½	Ericsson 'B'	3696½	- 26½	1.0	22.2
65	56	Exacmpy	64		3.5	18.9
451	363	Exmillcom	379		1.6	22.4
665	445	Fairey Group	645	+ 3	2.1	19.7
235	194	Forward Gp	194		3.2	11.6
98	14½	Forward Techt	45	+ 1	2.1	9.3
350½	268½	GEC	297	- 1	4.9	13.9
191	119	Gestetner	119		5.7	
191	119	Grandpyt	150		5.0	14.1
193	121	Ind Control	152		5.1	
288	235	Kenwood App	276		3.0	18.0
875	730	Lucchse (A)	865		4.0	19.8
165	36	Matk	63	+ 2	6.1	
488	337	Rollmans	417	+ 1	4.0	22.2
196	137	Slnr Darby	165	+ 4	3.3	17.1
267	197	Staveley	267		5.1	46.5
1688	1355	Siebe V	1688		2.8	15.0
358	220	TT Group	338	- 2	2.3	
383	302	Tomkins	211	+ 0½	4.3	14.4
124	74½	Tubelgar H	83	- 1	1.5	
440	245	Unidare	295		3.8	16.0
382	249½	Wassall	379	+ 1	4.0	24.0
398	300½	Wsm Johnsg	385	+ 4	0.9	62.2
13½	9½	Wilkins	10½			
414½	322	Williams Hldg	345	+ 1	4.7	21.3

ENGINEERING

1994 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
185	119	ADV	150		3.6	40.0
138	69½	APV†	89½		4.0	
231½	14	Aerospace Eqy	18		5.2	51.0
73	57½	Alvis	57	+ 2	3.4	29.7
178	158	Ash & Lacy†	158		5.1	16.3
550	450	Atlas Elevatr	533		5.2	17.8
126	86	Aynsbee Metal	113		1.7	
51	34½	BM Gp	45½	+ 1½		
46½	36½	Babcock	39½	- 0½		
99	83	Bamford	83		6.0	
51	34	Barnes (Charlesh)	78		2.6	20.0
36	25	Bradford	33			
9	5	Brantley	6½			646
1253	1125	Bridgs Utd	1225		5.3	7.8
559	382	Bodycote	511

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Increase in start-ups and franchises shows returning confidence

By Derek Harris

SIGNS of an upturn in the formation of new businesses are increasing, with this year's total promising comfortably to exceed that of last year. Also, a new survey has found that franchising, particularly, is set for consistent post-recession growth.

In the three months to September, 100,000 businesses started trading, the largest number in any quarter since March 1992, according to the latest National Westminster Bank Start-up Index.

The South East was the most prolific, with 40,000; the South West was the lowest, at 15,000. The Midlands and Wales totalled 25,000, and the North of England 20,000.

Total business start-ups logged by NatWest have reached 280,000 and the 12-month total is expected to be 370,000. That would be substantially ahead of last year, though below the performance earlier in the decade.

Retailers account for 23 per cent of new businesses and in the Midlands, the proportion is more than a third. In the South of England the majority of start-ups arose in property and in finance or professional services.

Ian Peters, the head of NatWest's small business services, said: "The quarterly figures show confidence is returning. More people also are prepared to start up entirely on their own — 60 per cent of new businesses were sole traders, compared with about half in 1990."

The franchising study, by the University of Westminster's International Franchise Research Centre, foresees continued growth in this sector.

More working women will mean more dual-career and dual-income families, resulting both in a need to purchase more services and the ability to pay for them. That points to a growth in home servicing franchises — such as in cleaning and garden care — as well as child care and development services. An ageing population is expected to increase opportunities in leisure and care.



"How is it that only *cheques* ever get lost in the post?"

Sporting chance in books

By Rodney Hobson

JOHN Gaustad began his sports books business with half a shop and a dream. Nine years later, he has two shops and is thriving, unlike many small booksellers. Specialisation has enabled him to sidestep the onslaught of the big bookselling chains, he says.

He came to Britain in 1974, a New Zealander in his mid-20s, and got a job with Dillons, the book retailing chain. Later, he worked for other booksellers, ending with a family book store in Cambridge.

"I learnt a lot and I enjoyed it," he says. "By the time I finished, I had become a senior manager. I was given a large section of the shop to run, with turnover of £1½ million and ten staff."

When the Home Office gave him permission to stay in Britain permanently and set up his own business, an idea had taken shape. "I knew I wanted to specialise," he says, "because I could see that the growth of bookshop chains was going to make it hard for independent general bookshops to survive. I had to have a really strong reason for people to come into my shop. I had to have something that there was deep interest in, but was not being adequately catered for."

Mr Gaustad had two ideas: sport and thrillers. He decided that he was more interested in sport and it had greater potential. He says: "I went to big general bookshops, posing as a customer and hanging around the sports department. I saw what people bought, listened to the questions they asked and the responses they got. I was confident that there was a market that was not being developed. Sports got a bad deal from general bookshops."



ALAN WELLER

John Gaustad at his London shop. He says sport is not adequately covered in general bookshops

In 1985, he set up Sports Pages in Charing Cross Road, the centre of London's book trade. From day one, he covered every sport. The signs were good. Keeping fit was gaining popularity, the Sports Council was encouraging lesser-known sports and television was giving greater coverage.

The shop sells videos and team shirts, as well as books. Mr Gaustad says: "When I was designing the shop I did not want it to be silent. I wanted background noise. It seemed obvious to have videos playing, with the sound of crowds and commentators."

The football shirts are 1970s designs, from the days when there was no advertising and team strips did not change frequently. They were introduced 18 months ago for the Christmas season.

Mr Gaustad says: "Football is the biggest spectator sport in this country. If I walked up the road and went into one of the big book retailers, they would have books on cricket and golf but little on football." North American games such as baseball and ice hockey are also popular.

"I attract people who would normally find a big bookshop overwhelming but can find this place a little haven," he says. "We have grown the market by appealing to people who would not have gone into a bookshop otherwise."

His second shop, in Manchester, was opened 18 months ago. It is similar to the one in London but with a greater emphasis on Rugby League and cycling — the North West has more amateur cycling clubs than other regions of Britain.

BR

The Rural Development Commission has launched a drive to persuade more rural businesses, particularly smaller ones, to use its financial resources for expansion.

The commission operates in the main rural development areas of the South West, the Welsh and Scottish borders, Cumbria and parts of Yorkshire and Humberside, the eastern rural counties stretching from Suffolk to Lincolnshire, and in parts of Sussex, Kent and the Isle of Wight.

Commission loans start at £5,000 and are usually restricted to half a project's cost. Commercial rates are usually charged, although under-secured or unsecured loans are considered. A concessionary fixed interest rate is reserved for bigger job-creating projects needing a minimum £25,000.

Details: RDC, 071 340 2900, or local commission offices.

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☐ A seminar exploring how to run a teleworking business is planned by The Telecottage Association. It will take place on Saturday, November 26, at Chester. Details: call 0388 526393.

Edited by Derek Harris

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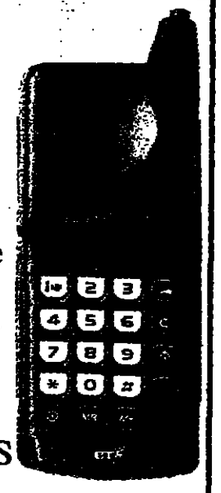
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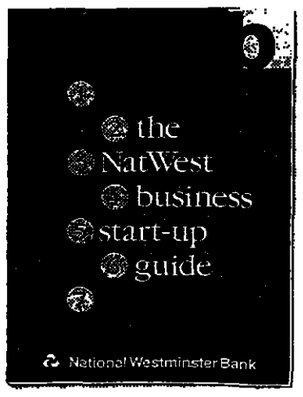
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MUSIC page 32
Odessa's musicians embark on a tour of Britain — led by an American conductor

ARTS

THEATRE page 33
What have the Germans done to Romeo and Juliet? Prepare for shocks from Düsseldorf



VISUAL ART: An exhibition of Frank Dobson's sculpture in Leeds, plus selected contemporary shows

Dark heart of stone

Richard Cork celebrates the sculptor Frank Dobson, unfairly neglected until the current retrospective

In 1925, Frank Dobson's fast-rising reputation as a sculptor was crowned with a remarkable accolade from Roger Fry, the most influential art critic of the day. Writing in *The Burlington Magazine*, Fry claimed that Dobson's work was "true sculpture and pure sculpture, and this is almost the first time that such a thing has been even attempted in England".

Other critics and curators concurred, ensuring Dobson's inclusion in the British Pavilion at the Venice Biennale a year later. But he never sustained this early momentum. Within a decade, Dobson's role as the leading sculptor of his generation had been wrested from him by Henry Moore. Although he lived on until 1963, Dobson watched in frustration as his fame was gradually eclipsed. Moore had become internationally renowned, whereas Dobson's name meant little to anyone except specialists in the interwar period.

In 1981, Robert Hopper organised a timely retrospective at Kettle's Yard in Cambridge. It reawoke interest, and convinced many of us that Dobson had been unfairly neglected. Since then, more of his work has been discovered, and the latest survey at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds includes several important pieces displayed for the first time in public for more than 60 years.

The new exhibition concentrates, in a very focused and discerning way, on Dobson's sculpture alone. His drawings and paintings are excluded, although an enjoyable show at Jason & Rhodes includes some choice examples of his rigorous yet sensual draughtsmanship. The space at Leeds allows Dobson's major works the room they deserve. Although a number of bronzes and small terracottas are here as well, his outstanding achievements all turn out to be hewn from stone.

While Fry presented him as a pioneer, the truth is that Dobson inherited his love of "carving direct" from the pre-1914 generation. Epstein, Gaudier and Gill had all broken away decisively from the 19th-century preference for monumental bronzes. They wanted to rediscover a sense of personal engagement with their materials, allowing the specific nature of the wood or stone to affect their work. They also broke away from the classic tradition, insisting that Western sculpture had much to learn from African, Oceanic and many other cultures.

The young Dobson shared their restless views — even though he had served as studio assistant to a senior sculptor of a very different persuasion, Sir William Reynolds-Stephens. The earliest carvings at Leeds reveal a powerful commitment to "primitive" influences. One, a fiercely angular *Kneeling Female Figure* in dark sandstone, makes us keenly aware of the block from which it has been chiselled. The body seems trapped within this boulder-like mass, parts of which might have been left deliberately unfinished.

> Dobson watched in frustration as his fame was gradually eclipsed by Henry Moore

Its roughness contrasts with the more polished *Seated Woman*, likewise carved in 1915. But this superb little oak figure shares the other sculpture's sense of strain. Hunched and tense, the compact woman with her harshly scored hair stares up apprehensively. She may well reflect Dobson's own fears, for he enlisted in the Army soon after completing her.

Never again would he explore the starkness which makes *Seated Woman* so startling. Neville Jason, co-author with Lisa Thompson-Pharoah of a welcome new book on *The Sculpture of Frank Dobson* (Lund Humphries, £45), reveals that Expressionism would have been known to the student Dobson through his discovery of German art magazines, but its surgical rawness played no part in his postwar work.

Epstein and Gaudier became the dominant influences for a while, and Wyndham Lewis liked Dobson's work so much that he included it in the avant-garde Group X exhibition. *Pigeon-Boy*, a strange Portland stone carving displayed in that show, stresses the intimacy between bird and youth. The pigeon leans forward, pushing its beak into the boy's proffered mouth. Food is being provided, and the pigeon presses the full length of its body against the face of the nurturing youth. Compared with the machine-age brutality of Gaudier's *Bird Swallowing Fish*, *Pigeon-Boy* could hardly look more placid. It suggests that Dobson wanted to greet the postwar world with celebrations of calmness and healing fulfilment.

At first glance, the *Two Heads* in red Mansfield sandstone bears out this idea. Absorbed in thought, and elongated with a poise worthy of Modigliani's even more attenuated carvings, the women appear to be the quintessence of stillness. The severely simplified masses of their bunched hair give the sculpture's back an almost abstract air, purged of all irrelevant detail. After a while, however, the faces come to possess an unexpected melancholy. They seem oppressed by thought. And even though Dobson allows them both to grow out of a single block, they remain curiously apart. Lost in private meditation, the women stare in separate directions, as if impervious of each other's proximity.



Frank Dobson's *Two Heads* (1921) in sandstone: "Lost in private meditation, the women stare in separate directions"

There is a darker side to Dobson's imagination, and it surfaces most disquietingly in *The Man Child*. A *tour de force* of the carver's art, this complex 1921 stone group appears to rejoice in maternal love. But the child himself is a surprisingly hefty figure, who angrily resists his mother's embrace. Inclining her head towards the struggling boy, she looks almost sorrowful. And the other woman, who peers over her shoulder at the conflict between them, is filled with foreboding.

On a subconscious level, *The Man Child* may reflect its maker's own troubled childhood. After his father died suddenly in his mid-forties, the 14-year-old Dobson left home and spent a couple of months sleeping rough. Eventually an aunt took him in, but the rift with his mother never healed. In this respect, *The Man Child* could be described as a self-revealing work. It is charged with an angry tension which Dobson never again exposed in his sculpture.

The mesmeric head of Osbert Sitwell, modelled a year later, is an oddly impersonal portrait. Wearing a glazed expression, the writer assumes a robotic quality. T.E. Lawrence, who acquired the work, enthusiastically declared that "it's as loud as the massed bands of the Guards". But the head derives this clangour solely from the bright, highly polished bronze. Take away this spectacularly reflective surface sheen, and you are left with a quiet, unassuming image which conveys little of its sitter's character. By chance, the plaster version is now on view in the National Portrait Gallery's "Sitwell Family" exhibition. It looks irreproachably discreet when set beside the bronze.

In subsequent portrait heads, of which Dobson made rather too many, he never probed his sitter's individuality with Epstein's theatrical bravura. The Leeds show wisely omits most of these pieces, concentrating instead on carvings from the interwar period. The finest are magnificent. *Cornucopia*, its Ham Hill stone newly cleaned to disclose the darker veins coursing through its pale, honey-coloured surface, is Dobson's most ripe and sensual sculpture. Partly stimulated by a trip to Ceylon in 1924, and by the Indian dances performed by Dobson's friend Margaret Morris, the figure has a rounded fulfilment also reminiscent of Maillol.

The latter's name would later be used as a weapon by critics who dismissed Dobson as Maillol's follower. But *Cornucopia* arrives at a subtle fusion of Asiatic and classical French sources, while its sharply chiselled hair has a helmet-like toughness still reminiscent of Wyndham Lewis.

This bountiful image of woman suggests that Dobson had finally come to terms with the tensions besetting his earlier *Man Child*. It would be a mistake, though, to conclude that his later female figures were all untroubled. Even *Pax*, the most redoubtable and impressive of his 1930s carvings, belies its title by leaning forward as if alerted by some distant threat. Her mountainous limbs prompt comparison with Moore's reclining women, and *Pax* could be seen as Dobson's most ambitious and monumental response to the younger man's prowess. Despite her formidable bulk, however, this stone goddess with her bulbous, wrestler's arms looks readier for action than Moore's somnolent earth-mothers.

After the Second World War, Dobson went into a slow decline. Physical infirmity hampered his attempts to carve, and too many of his late bronzes lapse into flaccidity. The Leeds show proves, though, that he was still capable of potent work as late as 1954. This was the year when he produced a *Reclining Female Figure* in white marble. One of his last carvings, it seems at first to exude grandeur and repose. After a while, however, it begins to appear more akin to death. The huddled woman takes on a chilled aspect as she hugs her bunched limbs, like a frozen body found in the snow after the storm has finally subsided.

● *Frank Dobson at the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds (0113 234 3158) until December 31. His sculpture and drawings at Jason & Rhodes (071-434 1768) until November 26. The Sitwells at the National Portrait Gallery (071-306 0055) until January 22.*

ART GALLERIES

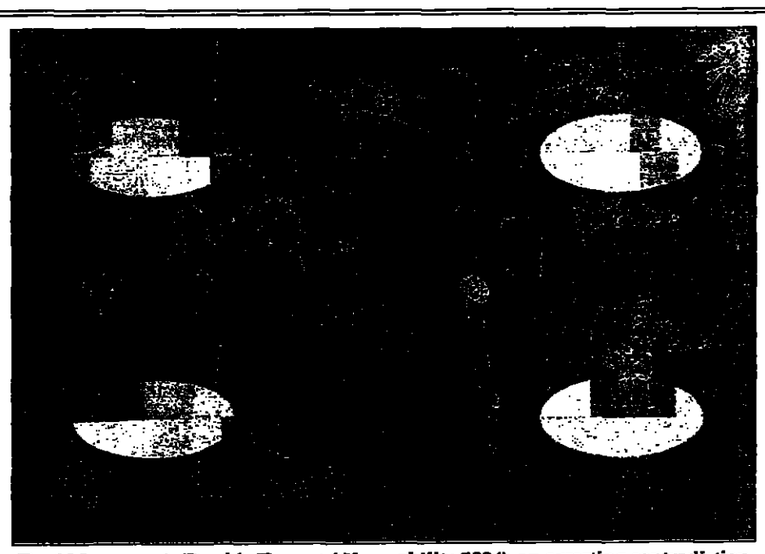
PERHAPS it is a matter of looking the other way, of looking up rather than down. Paul Graham's latest series of photographs is of sky over Ballymurphy, Andersonstown and Shankill: swirling clouds, dense diffuse mist, clear patches, and Prussian blue turning into fine grey. These attractive, unworrying pictures are hung in serried, formal ranks. The place names alone change the way we might view them. Graham has been photographing Northern Ireland for many years. An earlier example downstairs at Anthony Reynolds reveals an ordinary traffic roundabout harbouring a stalking soldier.

This series, which attempts to reflect the changing situation in the Province, shows how stereotypical preconceptions of a place can lead us to interpret photographs of sky as a nod in the direction of different gods.

Anthony Reynolds Gallery, 5 Dering St, London W1 (071-491 0621) until November 19

☐ Two processes are at work in David Leapman's paintings. Having set the scene with fantastically bright and almost optically disturbing Dayglo stripes, he then draws over it with characteristically awkward, disengaged lines. The contradiction between fumbling line and dazzling spectacle is arresting. Images are produced in the process: quasi-machines, figures and spaces. The paintings are very large, preventing a real overview. Their effect is heightened by being presented in ultraviolet light, so that each image really does appear to hover between canvas and viewer, achieving a goal long sought by traditional painters.

Todd Gallery, 1-5 Needham Road, London W11 (071-792 1404), until November 19



David Leapman's *Double-Tongued Knowability* (1994): an arresting contradiction

☐ Caroline de Lannoy follows a well-worn path. She makes delicate, wafting monochrome paintings. The understated colour can be pearl, yellow or very dark. Although the paintings contain labyrinths, the eye is never concerned to find a way out or across. Instead it stays still, taking in the humming presence of these delicate, minimal understatements.

Blue Gallery, 93 Walton St, London SW3 (071-589 4690), until November 5

☐ The presence of pottery in the d'Offay gallery is strange and potentially mystifying, although these objects must be counted works of art rather than craft. Grayson Perry makes structurally unbalanced coil pots which nevertheless embody a level of convincingly classical luxury. It is a familiar strategy — to entice, engage and delight with beauty in order then to shock and undermine. The pots display the detail, effort, labour and skill that come of mastered craft, but reveal a mixture of references.

A spanking scene, teddy bears, self-portraits, Sitwell portraits, graffiti and scribbles deliver the artist's message that "this pot is designed for a wealthy Westerner with good taste". And so Perry extends the mocking idea of selling art about art into an even more teasing arena.

Anthony d'Offay Gallery, 9, 21 and 23 Dering St, London W1 (071-499 4100) until November 26

☐ It took retirement from art-school teaching for Albert Herbert to paint really well. Perhaps it is only possible to deal with religious imagery in this way. Herbert makes small, pretend-naïve paintings of scenes such as Jonah and the Whale. Using lettering and words for further amplification, he creates topographical spaces where passages of movement are stacked on top rather than behind each other.

England and Co, 14 Needham Road, London W11 (071-221 0417) until November 19

SACHA CRADDOCK

OPERA: A first-rate chorus and fine minor roles cannot hide a lack of principal-power in a docile Puccini revival

Meditation on a moonbean

Turandot
Covent Garden

The temperature of Puccini has dropped a few degrees since September. *Turandot* got the Royal Opera season off to a cracking start, as Rodney Milnes reported. Sharon Sweet and Giuseppe Giacomini were the best-matched pair of royals seen so far in Andrei Serban's production, and the fizz generated by Daniele Gatti in the pit fully justified his new title of principal guest conductor.

This month's revival is a far more docile and almost routine affair. Sir Edward Downes, the conductor, had one of his quieter evenings, preferring to meditate on the Hymn to the Moon, with dusty beams piercing Sally Jacobs's slatted sets, than on the flashier moments of the score. He was at his happiest when Liù was around: Cynthia Haymon, a veteran of this staging, was on top form in the throbbing emotions of "Tu che di gel".

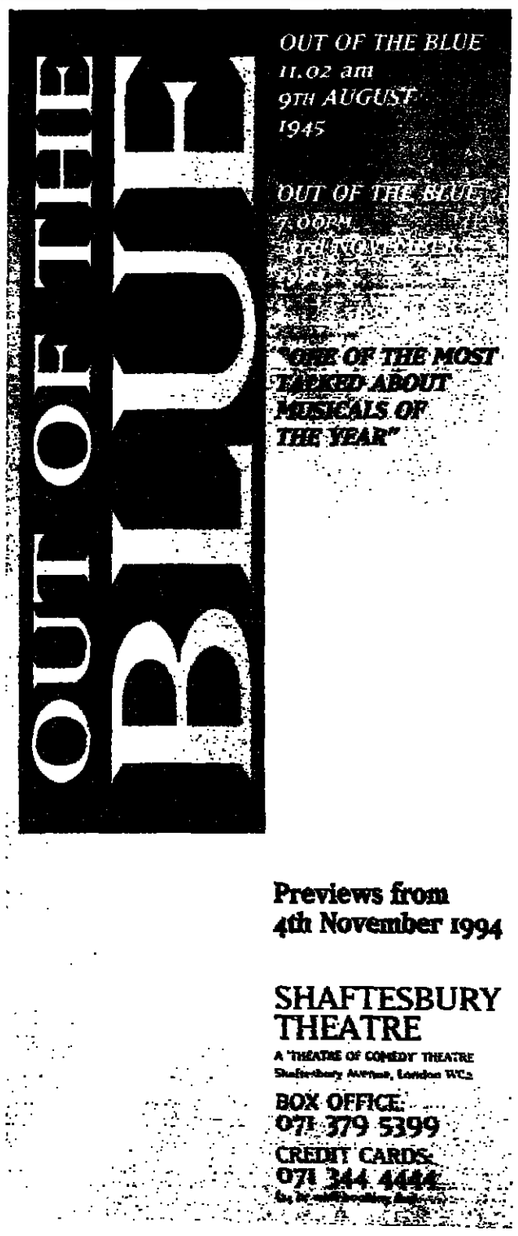
But *Turandot* fills the house nowadays with those demanding more obvious display. The German soprano Alessandra Marc, on her debut, went some way to providing it in the title role. She is built on the same ample lines as Ms Sweet, and four strong men were needed to wheel in her platform in Act I. The voice has touches of baritone in it and certainly hits the notes, but it lacks the glacial quality of the best Turandots, whose phrases should pierce the theatre like shards of ice during the Riddle Scene. Ms Marc showed at her powerful best during the closing love duet, but still did not quite erase a feeling that she might be happier in warmer roles, such as Aida.

Or perhaps she needed a better Calaf. Corneliu Murgu, in another house debut, too often sounded coarse and appeared to have only two points on his volume dial: loud and louder still. He obliged with a ringing "vincerò" at the end of "Nessun dorma", which pleased the soccer elements in the theatre, but only after some dodgy phrasing earlier in the aria. His acting was rudimentary and consisted mainly of prowling round the stage looking belligerent. But he prodded the gong at the end of the first act with a long pole as though it were a wayward cow.

Fortunately, the rest of the production is intact. The trio of ministers (Simon Keenlyside, Robin Leggate and Francis Egerton) remain supremely athletic in their blood-stained world of severed heads and old skulls tossed from hand to hand.

Mark Beesley is the impressive new Timur, one of life's eternal victims, as Serban cynically points out in the closing tableau, as the one-time king wearily hauls his daughter's catafalque across the stage amidst general rejoicing elsewhere. The chorus was consistently first-class.

JOHN HIGGINS



TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

ALICE'S ADVENTURES UNDER GROUND: Christopher Hampton burrows for the subtext to Lewis Carroll, aided by choreographer/director Martha Clarke. Said to be unsuitable for children under 12.
National, (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm. Opens Nov 8, 7pm.

A PASSIONATE WOMAN: First night of previews for Stephanie Cole as a woman re-assessing her dull marriage on the morning of her son's wedding. Ned Sherrin directs Kay Mellor's new play. With Neil Morrissey, James Gaddas and Alfred Lynch.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-369 1731). From tonight, 8pm. Opens Nov 7.

OUT AND ABOUT AT THE GALLERIES: A round-up of some of the shows opening this week. The celebrated still-life artist **José Escofet** opens his first London showing of oil paintings today (Ebury), while at the Cadogan, **Joy Girvin** shows the fruits of a year's stay in Rome and Siena. Dramatic watercolour landscapes are on offer from rising star **Bernhard Vogel** (Waterman), the Medici assembles 40 contemporary artists for its **Christmas Exhibition** and *The Times'* own **Ged Melling** exhibits his "Paintings and Permanent Marks" (Gallery 47). For ceramic enthusiasts, works by the incomparable **Hans Coper** and **Lucie Rie** are at Galerie Besson and modern jewellery lovers should head for **Lesley Craze**'s tenth-anniversary celebration.
Ebury, Ebury St, SW1 (071-730 8999); **Cadogan** Draycott Ave, SW3 (071-581 5451), **Waterman**, Jermyn St, SW1 (071-839 5203); **Gallery 47**, Great Russell St, WC1, **Besson**, Royal Arcade (071-491 1706), **Craze**, Clerkenwell Green (071-608 0393)

ELSEWHERE

BRISTOL: Mitsuko Uchida gives the second of her "Uchida Plays Schubert" recitals at St George's tonight. The programme includes Sonatas in A minor D845 and in G D894, plus Schoenberg's *Five Pieces* Op 23.
St George's, Brandon Hill (0117 923 0359). Tonight, 7.30pm.

IPSWICH: Opening night for Nell Dunn's tough-speaking **Sisters**, based on the true story of two abused daughters who finally turned against their father.
Wolsey Studio, Civic Drive (0473 253725). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 7.45pm; mats Nov 10, 2.15pm and Nov 12, 4.15pm.

EDINBURGH: **Birmingham Royal Ballet** continues its tour of MacMillan's glorious *Romeo and Juliet*, tonight to Thursday. Later in the week, a triple bill includes Ashton's *Enigma Variations*, Massine's *The Three-Cornered Hat* and Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries*, created in memory of John Cranko, founder of the Stuttgart Ballet.
Festival, Nicolson Street (031-529 6000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, 1.30pm and Sat, 2.30pm.

MANCHESTER: The Israeli Theatre Season continues this week with Gesher Theatre's beautifully crafted production of **The Idiot** (performed with simultaneous translation, Contact) and a premiere for Nava Zuckerman's charismatic Tmu-Na Company. The legend of Orpheus and a memory of a terrorist kidnap combines in **Transit Hotel** at the Dancehouse. And while it is not part of the festival, the Library presents a real scoop with the British premiere of **Teibele and her Demon**, *a play by Isaac Bashevis Singer. The* sexual fantasies of a beautiful women, abandoned by her husband, has a cast of rabbis, scholars and demons. Maly Theatre's Grigori Dityatkovsky directs.
Festival Hotline (061-242 2555). **Library**, St Peter's Square (061-236 7110). Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm; mats Nov 5, 9 and 19, 3pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: A Bitter Truth: Avant-Garde Art and the Great War (071-638 4141) . . **British Museum**: Japanese Imperial Craftsmen (071-636 1555) . . **Hayward**: The Romantic Spirit in German Art 1790-1990 (071-928 3144) . . . **National Portrait Gallery**: The Sitwells (071-306 0055) . . **National Gallery**: The Young Michelangelo (071-839 3321) . . **Royal Academy**: The Glory of Venice (071-439 7438) . . **Serpentine**: Rebecca Horn (071-402 6075) . . **Tate**: Whistler (071-887 8000) . . **V & A**: Kalighat: Indian Popular Painting 1800-1930 (938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

◪ **DESIGN FOR LIVING**: Final week for Clive Owen, Paul Rhys and Rachel Weisz in Coward's defence of the *ménage à trois*. The evening is a lot of fun though Sean Mathias trumpets the bisexuality where Coward only hinted.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-369 1732). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE**: Christopher Morahan's excellent staging of Shaw's study of honour, true and hypocritical, in the American War of Independence. Strong performances from, among others, Richard Bonneville, Paul Jesson, Daniel Massey.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm.

■ **EVERYBODY'S SHAKESPEARE**: John Barton leads a "Shakespeare's Language" workshop with associate artists and members of the RSC.
Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs and Sat, 2pm.

◪ **MOLLY SWEENEY**: Brian Friel directs his own play, acclaimed in Dublin. Catherine Byrne, Mark Lambert and T. P. McKenna play blind woman, husband and surgeon in a superb drama about the recovery of sight.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Now previewing, 8pm, opens Thurs, 7pm.

☐ **MOSCOW STATIONS**: Tom Courtenay's one-man performance as an alcoholic lost on the Moscow Underground. You probably won't see finer, more touching acting this year.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ **900 ONEONTA**: David Beaird's Gothic shock-horror satire of a rotten Southern family steeped in sex and incompetence. Totally over the top but weirdly exhilarating.
Ambassadors, West St, WC2 (071-836 6111). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs 3pm and Sat 4pm.

☐ **ON APPROVAL**: Peter Hall gives us the Lonsdale play as it was and is: a sophisticated, diverting but relatively sexless piece. Martin Jarvis is in brilliant form, with Anna Carteret, Louise Lombard and Simon Ward.
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◪ **THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE**: Patricia Hodge plays the inspirational but dangerous schoolteacher in a revival of an old favourite. Alan Strachan directs.
Strand, Strand, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **THE QUEEN AND I**: Sue Townsend's satiric romp follows the deposed royals as they struggle to survive on a council estate. Pauline Wilcox plays a sensible and genial Queen; not as subversive as one might expect. Max Stafford Clark directs.
Vaudeville, The Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **THREE TALL WOMEN**: Maggie Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille play the women who haunted the childhood of Edward Albee. His Pulitzer Prizewinner, directed by Anthony Page.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-369 1736). Now previewing, 8pm, opens Nov 15, 7pm.

☐ **TWO HORSEMEN**: Two idlers pass the time telling stories, telling lies. Bryn Bandel-Thomas's slender two-hander, winner of the London New Play Festival.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388). Opens tonight, 7pm.

☐ **WHAT A PERFORMANCE**: David Suchet shows off well as he mugs and flounces as Sid Field in William Humble's stage biography.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (071-930 8800) ◪ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . ☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) . . ☐ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . ☐ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) . . ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ◪ **Grease**: Dominion (071-416 6060) . . ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Aldwych (071-836 6404) ☐ **Lady Windermere's Fan**: Albery (071-867 1115) . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) . ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . ☐ **Neville's Island**: Apollo (071-494 5070) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ☐ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (071-836 8888) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (071-344 0055) . ☐ **Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE BROWNING VERSION (15): Solid, unspectacular version of Rattigan's play, with Albert Finney as the classics teacher facing retirement. With Greta Scacchi, Matthew Modine and Julian Sands. Director, Mike Figgis.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

FEAR OF A BLACK HAT (18): Juvenile rap music spoof that runs out of jokes and steam. Rusty Cundieff writes, directs and co-stars.
Electric (071-792 2020) **Metro** (071-437 0757)

◆ **MAJOR LEAGUE II** (PG): Unwanted, dull sequel to the baseball comedy hit. With Tom Berenger and Charlie Sheen; director, David S. Ward.
MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

RAPA NUI (12): Exotic adventure filmed on Easter Island. Foolish but fun with Jason Scott Lee and Esai Morales. Director, Kevin Reynolds.
Plaza (0800 888997) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

CURRENT

◆ **THE ADVENTURES OF PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT** (15): Two drag queens and a transsexual get stuck in the Australian outback. Joyful and vulgar romp with Terence Stamp and Hugo Weaving, director, Stephan Elliott.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE CLIENT** (15): Mediocre version of John Grisham's thriller about a boy in jeopardy, with Susan Sarandon, Tommy Lee Jones and Brad Renfro. Director, Joel Schumacher.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **FORREST GUMP** (12): Endearing if indulgent odyssey through post-war America, ideal for baby boomers. With Tom Hanks. Director, Robert Zemeckis.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker St** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Rd** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE HUDSUCKER PROXY (PG): Hick becomes company boss. Ritzy comic pastiche from the Coen brothers, with Tim Robbins, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Paul Newman.
MGM Swiss Centre (071-439 4470)

LANCELOT DU LAC (PG): Robert Bresson strips the Arthurian legend bare in a minimalist masterpiece from 1974. With Luc Simon and Laura Duke Condominas.
Everyman (071-435 1525)

◆ **THE LION KING** (U): African lion cub almost loses his father's throne. Much hyped but charmless Disney cartoon, not meant for tiny tots.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Sq** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Screen/Baker St** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18): Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.
Gate (071-727 4043) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Ave** (071-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Baker St** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

SHORT CUTS (18): Robert Altman's dazzling kaleidoscope of fractured lives in Los Angeles. With Andie MacDowell, Bruce Davison, Tim Robbins, Matthew Modine, Lily Tomlin.
MGM Swiss Centre (071-439 4470)

SIRENS (15): Oxford curate and his wife mingle with Australia's bohemians. Joyful, luscious romp, with Hugh Grant, Tara Fitzgerald and Elle MacPherson.
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683)

◆ **SPEED** (15): Enjoyable package of thrills, with Keanu Reeves as the SWAT team daredevil faced with a bomb on an LA bus. With Sandra Bullock and Dennis Hopper.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **WAR OF THE BUTTONS** (PG): Child warfare in a small Irish community. Small, damp whimsy from producer David Puttnam, directed by newcomer John Roberts.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

WHEN A MAN LOVES A WOMAN (15): Serious, well-focused drama about alcohol abuse, detoxification and after. With Meg Ryan and Andy Garcia.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

WOLF (15): Jack Nicholson's beast within finally comes out. Amusing, intelligent werewolf movie, with Michelle Pfeiffer. Director, Mike Nichols.
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683)



The phrase "overseas tour" takes on a new meaning: conductor Hobart Earle and the Odessa Philharmonic will be playing in Britain this week

A white hope in the Black Sea

As Odessa's musicians prepare for their British tour, Michael Wright reports on an orchestra rejuvenated

A notice in the lobby of Odessa's Hotel Chernoe More briskly advises that: "Management of the hotel does not bear responsibility for the loss of your values". A lot of values are going missing in Odessa these days. Ukraine's Black Sea port is awash with corruption, exploitation and Americana. So-called "wild capitalism" sweeps through this once-great city like a plague. The rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer, as Odessa sells its soul on the black market.

In such a climate, cynics may feel, it is not surprising that the Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra should have appointed a young American as its principal conductor. What *is* surprising is the way Hobart Earle, 33, has lifted this struggling, depressed band of *musicians out of their previous* nondescript status and actually achieved some critical acclaim. The little-known, 50-year-old orchestra is gaining in strength at a time when many other orchestras of the former Soviet Union are tottering after the withdrawal of their hefty state subsidies.

"*It's the difference between* dirt and gold," announces principal second violinist Leonid Piskun as he looks back on his 15 years with the orchestra and describes the impact of the American. "In the old days, we would have more people on stage than in the hall. Now, concerts are crowded."

Earle arrived in 1991 and quickly made his mark, becoming the first American to be appointed principal conductor of an orchestra in the former Soviet Union. "It was love at first sight on both sides," he says, though he admits that "there is a general scepticism towards foreigners *here, and no one could believe* I am here to stay."

Looking at the international flavour of his CV, it is easy to understand why. Born in Venezuela, the young musician was packed off to Gordonstoun at roughly the same age as the Prince of Wales ("I was so *cold*" he murmurs). He then gained a performer's diploma in clarinet from Trinity College of Music in London before jetting off to Princeton University. Here he was awarded the Isodore and Helen Sacks Memorial Prize in Music, and swiftly returned to Europe to study conducting in Vienna.

Earle has stayed in Odessa, and the city's love-affair with America — on both a cultural and orchestral level — looks set to continue. His players devotedly refer to him as "Our Hobie" and give him full credit for the renaissance of their musical fortunes. "The greatest achievements are *linked to Hobie," explains* Piskun. "He has given us many useful things," adds first clarinet Vladimir Tomaschuk. "I don't miss the old days, even though we were financially better off. Now we have an active orchestral life. We used to rehearse for four hours a day; now we sometimes do twice that." Cuban viola-player Roberto Dias agrees: "I enjoy the rehearsals because I love my work. Hobie's a great musician."

Such buoyancy and enthusiasm set the Odessa musicians apart from the countless other former Soviet orchestras who persist in dragging themselves *around Europe in an endless* quest for hard currency to top up their dwindling roubles. A monthly wage of $28 may be barely enough for most of the players to live on, and their instruments may still be largely state-owned. Yet beneath Earle's flying baton anything seems possible.

Listening to the orchestra give a free outdoor concert on Primorski Boulevard, at the top of the famous Odessa Steps, underlines Piskun's words. While the musicians crisply ripple through Strauss waltzes and polkas, children step out from the audience and dance in the sunlit square. A little boy pirouettes amidst a gaggle of girls. In this holiday atmosphere it is as hard to believe in the encroaching corruption of Odessa as it is to *detect the "breathtaking* sophistication" of the orchestra's strings, as noted by the critic of the *Wiener Zeitung* at Vienna's Musikverein. Yet there is no mistaking the sound of a fine orchestra performing because it *wants* to, rather than because it is being paid to play.

Between pieces, Hobie talks to the audience, and indulges in some comic banter with the children. It is just another Saturday in the former Soviet Union, as "America the Beautiful" and "Stars and Stripes Forever" echo out past the statue of Pushkin towards the Black Sea.

● *The Odessa Philharmonic plays in the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, on Thursday (0202 297297); Barbican, London, Friday (071-638 8891); Liverpool Playhouse at 3pm and 8pm on Sunday (051-709 8363) and Ulster Hall, Belfast on Nov 9 (0232 665577)*

CONCERT: Pioneer of authenticity in London

Beethoven refreshed

PO/Harnoncourt, MacMillan
Festival Hall

IN HIS interview with Hilary Finch last week, Nikolaus Harnoncourt had some intriguing things to say about the funeral march of Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony, describing its parallels to the rhetoric of contemporaneous funeral orations. That movement certainly took on a new perspective last Saturday, in the first concert of Harnoncourt's Beethoven cycle with the Philharmonia Orchestra.

It sounded indeed like a speech, an extravagantly emotive expression going from glorification to lamenting and bitterness, dramatic pauses and all. You could almost see the arm gestures, the rolling of the eyes, the public tears.

Such revelations in such a work come once in a lifetime. But even where less radical things were on the agenda Harnoncourt, who works without baton and who gestures phrase and nuance rather than beat, made one listen and think anew. The Scherzo, for instance, followed the funeral march without pause, deliberately colliding the darkest and lightest sides of the piece. Both the opening movement and the finale were suitably heroic, but also characterised by careful balancing and shaping of phrase, so that details usually left obscured leapt out.

This sense of liberation was helped both by his positioning of the orchestra — basses and cellos to his left, second violins to the right — and by the sounds he encourages. Here his trumpeters played the fatter-sounding German, rather than French, variety of instruments; the timpanist's hard sticks made their usual impressions; and the woodwind were bold, soloistic colourists rather than a homogenising choir.

The difference between Harnoncourt and most other conductors is not that he is a wilful risk-taker, nor that he asks the question, as Norrington does, "what if?". Rather he sees the composer's own daring and realises the risks already incorporated in the score. If what comes out seems fresh — as it did also in his painstakingly eloquent reading of the First Symphony — it is nothing more than what is implicit on the page. Like all great interpreters, he remains the medium, not the message.

Earlier James MacMillan conducted and compered one of the Philharmonia's short "Music of Today" programmes. These early evening events are a good idea, though not if they ghettoise the Philharmonia's new music-making and leave the later concert audiences complacent.

MacMillan's introductions seemed hastily prepared, and there was one barbed reference to journalists lazily grouping him with Mark-Anthony Turnage and Steve Martland, as indeed this very concert did. As for the music, the ritual gestures, evoking the meeting of the women with the angels at the scene of the Resurrection, of his own brass and percussion fanfare *They saw the stone had been rolled away* made for a vivid overture.

Martland's *Shoulder to Shoulder* (1986), repetitive and desensitising in its quest to win its socialistic spurs, represented a dangerously popular aesthetic. But it received less applause than Mark-Anthony Turnage's *Release* (1983), an introduction and allegro that dares to be eloquent, flexible and full of unrepressed imagination.

STEPHEN PETTITT

ENTERTAINMENTS

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The Bard in the original German

THEATRE: Will Karin Beier's *Romeo and Juliet* enthrall the Barbican the way it did Düsseldorf? **Jeremy Kingston** has doubts

Set beneath the low vault of a concrete underpass, which only lifts for the lovers to profess their feelings from separate swings, the Düsseldorf Schauspielhaus version of *Romeo and Juliet* will present traditionalists who see it at the Barbican as part of the Everybody's Shakespeare Festival with a shock. Subsequent productions in the festival will bring further shocks, and if you have not yet read what Peter Sellars has done with *The Merchant of Venice*, insurance against apoplexy may be desirable.

The shock of the new is certainly what the organisers of the festival sought out, for what would be interesting in a foreign production that showed us no more than the commonplaces of a second-rate British rep company? Commonplaces, moreover, that come without the poetry and must fall back on plot and fancy dress.

The test is what the shocking novelty gives us to enter the play anew, set against what it throws out. A Frankfurt critic of Karin Beier's Schauspielhaus production, an enormous success in Germany, describes Frank Günther's translation as "fresh", which conveys almost nothing. But a moderate knowledge of the scenes shows how Beier can look at a line and see what a single word — "father", for instance — can do to help an actor to reveal a character's state of mind. Romeo thus addresses Friar Lawrence, although only a couple of times, and Juliet calls Capulet "father" just once. But a wealth of respect, dismay and, in Juliet's case, frantic love, is inserted into the word. The trilby Juliet affects in her early scenes turns out to be her dad's: taking it off is a sign that she has grown away from him. And not before time. Capulet later throws himself upon her, suggesting that his insistence on her early marriage is a way of removing her from his incestuous desires.

Foreigners are not straitjacketed by the text, as English-speaking directors are, and can freshen the language to suit themselves. But

> "Its success shows it is somebody's Shakespeare, but it will not be everybody's"

Beier can look into the speeches as we know them. In the one about "Queen Mab" she seizes on Mercutio's references to women, normally regarded as just one element in his interminable spite, to establish him as a homosexual hysterically jealous of Romeo's interest in girls.

So far so good, but Beier goes further. In his death-scene Mercutio deliberately flings himself on to Tybalt's sword, presumably in the spirit of "Now you'll be sorry", and later still it is he who plays the role of the Mantuan apothecary, agent of Romeo's death. Suicidal, murderous homosexuality, employed so prominently, introduces a spoiling irrelevance into the play's mechanisms of love and chance. Elsewhere the conflict, as well as between Capulets and Montagues, exists between youth and age. The notion is that the older generation are boobies (the Prince), adulterous (Lady Capulet) or both (Paris). While Paris and Lady C lasciviously dance in the foreground, the young lovers, naked (hence pure), are seen briefly embracing in the distance.

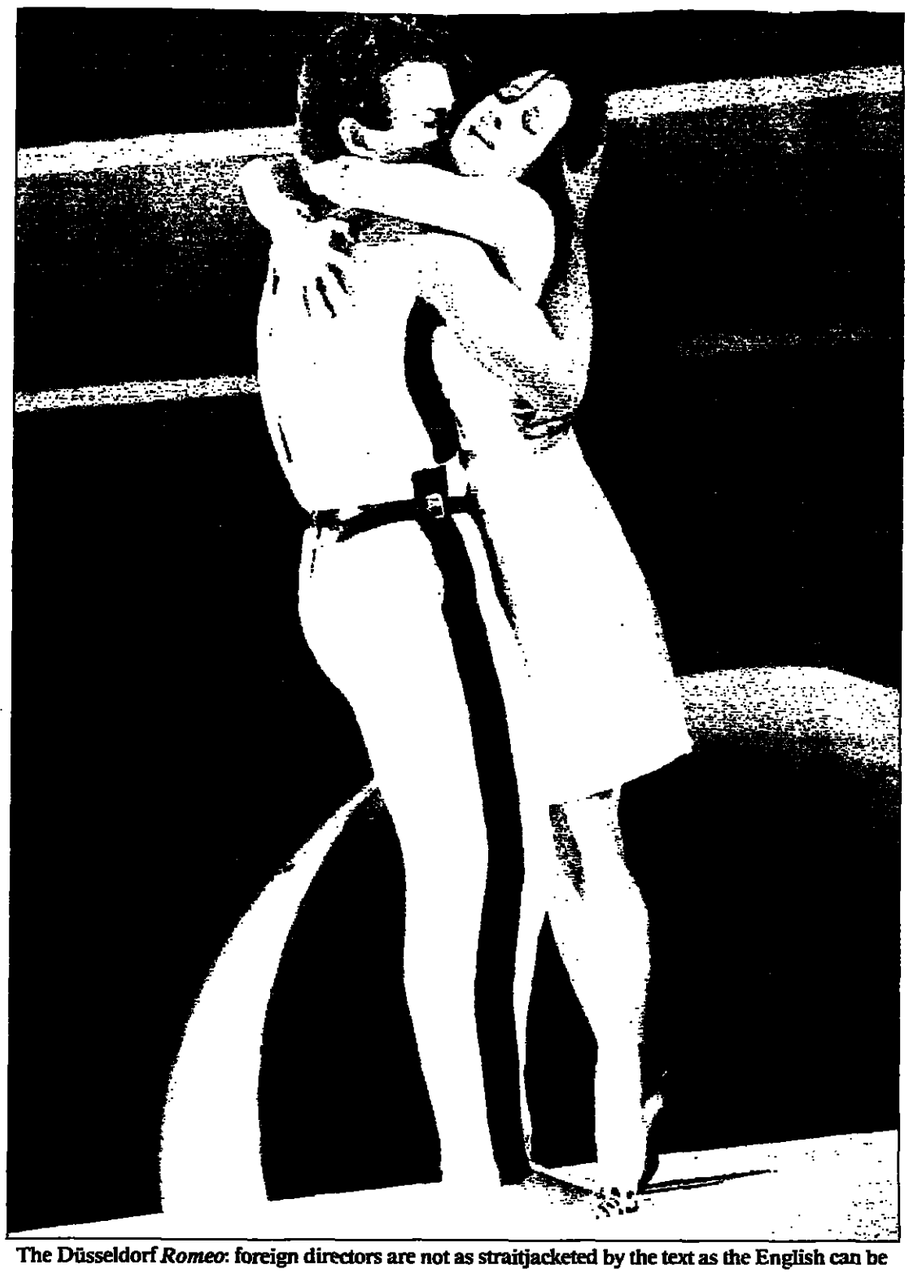
The young blades of Verona, sporting sexy leather codpieces, spar with quarter-staffs and throw themselves against the walls of Florian Etti's set, attempting to escape its confines sideways, where the only way to do so would be by elevating themselves through love.

One of Beier's happiest inventions is the early scene that thrusts Caroline Ebner's fragile Juliet into adulthood. Her mother gives her a pair of high-heeled shoes; she joyfully tries them on, has difficulty balancing but is denied her old ones. There is no going back from marriage.

Other innovations work against the story, both Shakespeare's and Beier's. Juliet's wary approach to her sleeping-draught is perceptive but the protracted, choking death of Matthias Leja's rugged Romeo caused nervous titters to ripple around the Düsseldorf audience. A passable idea developed beyond its due length destroys itself.

As spectacle the production is exhilarating, and its German success shows that it is somebody's Shakespeare. It will not be everybody's.

● Romeo and Juliet *is at the Barbican Theatre, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891) from tomorrow to Saturday at 7.30pm, with matinees on Thursday and Saturday at 2pm*



The Düsseldorf *Romeo*: foreign directors are not as straitjacketed by the text as the English can be

LONDON FRINGE: **Kate Bassett** on weird scenes on the road with an American family, and a hatchet job by a gang of gay blades

Driven to distractions

The Innocents' Crusade
Grace, SW11

RICHARD Bridge, the new artistic director, in partnership with Gemma Bodinetz, has embarked on a crusade: resurrecting the Grace in Battersea. This geographically challenged venue went dark for a time, but the projected combination of classics and new writing sounds enticing. As the Gate has previously proved, struggling on a shoestring can generate exciting work.

The Innocents' Crusade, directed by Bodinetz, did not wholly convert me to the cause. Unusual but increasingly tiresome, Keith Reddin's off-the-wall, on-the-road play combines satire with the surreal. It is the story of Bill — a Boy Average — driving round America with his none-too-special parents.

He is having trouble with his disparaging drunken dad (Mac McDonald is like an unpleasant Fred Flintstone, but oddly unmebriated). Meanwhile, Bill's mother gives little support, taking a back seat. Playing the mother, Eluned Hawkins needs to define her journey towards self-assertion.

We see Bill failing to attain a place at various colleges they visit. Then suddenly he turns into a Messiah, crusading sketchily for the Truth and acquiring misfit disciples.

Bill's father terminates this adventure (a scene in which John Stefaniuk's Bill briefly rises to genuine distress). Finally, a mysterious messenger, in biblical attire, announces their son has "left": possibly to join a cult; probably to take his own life.

The family travels randomly, ferrying Bill between interviews where he impresses no one with ridiculous hard-sell soliloquies about his unfocused ambitions. He exemplifies American positivism ascending into pure fiction, and confidence reaching absurd proportions, springing — we realise — from a chronic lack of faith in one's self. This is a play about growing up with a lack of direction and living in a dream world.

Unfortunately, the piece itself takes too many sidetracks and gets detached from reality. Reddin's non-naturalism becomes annoying as Bill's Jesus-style sermon ends up in *Henry V*'s "St Crispin's Day" speech.

This is a sometimes comically wacky play, but the cast needs more time to ground the characters in convincing domestic dynamics. Bodinetz's stylised directing is neatly economical but not always crystal clear, creating multiple locales with a handful of chairs.

But Lucy Hall's design is a low-budget gem. Everyone exists in a skyscape. Suitcases drift in the firmament. These open, like advent-calendar windows, providing each episode with a mini-setting: a dwarf motel bed; an aerial view of a Dinky Toy car park; a greasy diner meal on the vertical plane.

MARILYN KINGWILL



John Stefaniuk and Kaethe Cherny look to a surreal future in Keith Reddin's off-the-wall *The Innocents' Crusade*

Flailing in cleavage

The Rivals: A Queer Appropriation
Southwark Playhouse, SE1

MODERN and all-male, Akimbo Theatre Company offers a gay vision of Sheridan's classic. Unfortunately, this unsophisticated production is a dismal affair, and the reading seems as often inappropriate as pertinent.

The show has surprises up its sleeve. Mrs Malaprop — traditionally mutton-dressed-up-as-lamb affecting airs and graces — is a transsexual. Ivan Cartwright, somewhere between Joanna Lumley and an Ugly Sister, parades outrageous sheath-dresses. Boggling vital statistics are accompanied by a scarecrow peroxide wig and lashings of crude double entendres (taking liberties with her verbal infelicity). If Cartwright had comic timing, instead of just peaking and troughing in vocal pitch, this might be amusing.

Meanwhile, Julia and Lydia Languish are gay boys of different styles. Julia, faithful to Faulkland, is in a casual check shirt, jeans and slip-ons. Lydia, amour of Captain Absolute and with a preference for romance mixed with the risqué, is lying around in Calvin Klein undies and a silk dressing gown watching videos of *Grief* and *Carousel*.

The theatrical femininities of Sheridan's young ladies fit the camp approach. His gents' foppish vanity, paired with a stud side, translates to the captain frequenting the gym and nightclubs. However, the programme's emphasis on the gay pubs of 18th-century London is not really relevant.

Lydia's split feelings about officially tying the knot may touch on the inclination for staying free and single on the circuit, or on the thrill lost when sexuality is no longer underground. But all the talk of matrimony sounds incongruously heterosexual. Sir Anthony Absolute pressurising his son into a suitable marriage is briefly portrayed as homophobic. Next thing we know he is wedding the captain off to another chap. How is one to understand this?

Director Robin Baker, keen to locate the action on the happening scene, seems confused about where his scenes are happening. The contemporary is crassly imposed and the cabaret numbers are oddly lacklustre. Captain Absolute (*Philippe Brenninkmeyer*) has a dab of panache, but the cast is mostly awkward or comically flailing. The humour resides in the region of faces in cleavages, and broad northern accents.

Sheridan's comedy of manners includes broad strokes, but surely slapdash acting is at odds with lines of chiselled ornate eloquence: something the art of camp can deliver with gorgeous aplomb.



Daniel Earl and Phillip Gates: all-male Sheridan

POP

Bullied by the beat

The Prodigy
UEA, Norwich

WITH the Prodigy, you do not so much hear the music as feel it. The juddering, rumbling bass thuds into the stomach and shakes the room. At the back of the hall, empty beer bottles jitterbug to this electronic stampede, overlaid by the clattering fury of Jungle beats and jagged riffs. The noise almost bullies the audience into a frenzied dance.

This sonic assault has given the Prodigy the sort of obsessive followers who buy records as soon as they appear, sending them straight to No 1. But the Prodigy's success goes beyond their three years of cult status. Their second album, *Music For the Jilted Generation*, was shortlisted for the Mercury Music Prize, an acknowledgement that they are more than just another loud dance band.

Onstage, they look like castaways from a particularly brutal pirate ship. Liam Howlett, his hair cropped and his shirt shorn of its sleeves to reveal an armful of tattoos, marshals his keyboards from within a rudimentary metal shell. Maxim Reality plays the MC, dressed in a military brocade jacket and headscarf. Keith Flint, one of two dancers, patrols the stage in pyjama-like garb, his eyes thick with kohl. Leeroy Thornhill's baggy trousers and T-shirt seem conventional by comparison.

The Prodigy's records are almost Howlett's exclusive province — he is writer, performer and producer. He concocts searing tunes and breakneck rhythms out of sounds that seem to owe nothing to conventional instruments and everything to software and strange samples.

Live, though, the motley crew come into their own. The dancers strut like mannequins tugged by the beat. Reality barks out orders like a deranged sergeant major ("Let's have some appreciation"), or offers commentary ("Listen to the bass") like a musical John Motson. He is a captivating figure, but his presence is at the cost of the sampled female voices that litter the records. Only on "No Good (Start The Dance)" are they heard.

The lightshow is all spinning beams, highlighting the audience as much as the group. This was less a concert than a club; it was only fitting that, near the end, the stage was invaded by dancers and the Prodigy were lost to view.

JOHN STREET

Some proof that three into wonderful will go

JAZZ: **Chris Parker** hears an established trio of complementary voices, and a new grouping with a few lessons still to learn

In addition to having operated successfully for 12 years in the relatively rare milieu of jazz cabaret, the **Westbrook Trio** — singer Kate Westbrook, pianist husband Mike and saxophonist Chris Briscoe — is also justly celebrated for the fresh and revealing light its work sheds on the relationship between jazz and song. All too often, jazz musicians regard the popular song chiefly as a set of "nice changes", containing a chord sequence conducive to improvisation. Even jazz singers are frequently guilty of paying more attention to the improvisational possibilities of a song's tune than to the actual meaning of its lyrics.

Of course, there have been notable exceptions: saxophonist Lester Young, with his insistence that a soloist's first duty was to "tell a story", and fellow tenor player Dexter Gordon both carefully studied the lyrics of songs before they played them, using the emotions they expressed as starting points for improvisation. But such diligence is increasingly rare. The Westbrook Trio (in concert at the Jackson's Lane Community Centre, N16) is therefore extremely valuable, in that it focuses audiences' attention on the songs, rather than on the virtuosity of the performances of them.

The chief motivating force behind this admirable ambition is Kate Westbrook, who has been collaborating with Mike on a series of works for theatre, concert hall and multimedia events ever since she first joined his Brass Band in 1974. She it was who selected the English and foreign language text that informed their two most ambitious projects, the epic song cycles *The Cortege* and *London Bridge is Broken Down*, and it is her sensitivity to even the subtlest nuance in each song she sings that makes the Westbrook Trio such a satisfying experience.

Thus, her interpretation of "Love For Sale", rather than expressing mild, polite regret at missed opportunities, is infused with genuine anger and bitterness at the emotional wreckage caused by the prostitute's life. Her version of "Lush Life", instead of wallowing in the gentle melancholy of the beautiful Billie Strayhorn tune, addresses the central issue in his lyric — drunkenness drowning despair — head on. Standards such as Duke Ellington's "I Got It Bad And That Ain't Good" and Arther Hertzog/Billie Holiday's "Don't Explain" also receive definitive treatments that fully express the songs' emotional ambivalence.

Fleshed out by provocative, strident versions of Brecht/Weill classics and settings of French and German poems, and culminating in a breathtakingly lovely version of the tender Mikis Theodorakis song "On the Beach", all tellingly embellished by Biscoe's sensitive saxophones, this was a concert to savour.

Billed as "a collaboration symptomatic of a shrinking world" and "no Indo-jazz fusion ... but a conversation between partners who take nothing for granted and who know how to listen", **Raag Rhythm and Rhyme** (at the Watermans Arts Centre, Brentford) is a project attempting to find common musical ground — or, better still, to explore hitherto uncharted territory — for three of Britain's most open-minded and versatile musicians.

Carol Grimes is basically a blues singer. She began her career singing in London streets, subsequently acting as support for various luminaries of the 1960s blues boom. But she is also an accomplished performer in the pop and soul fields, and her jazz credentials were firmly established by 1990's standards album, *Lazy Blue Eyes*.

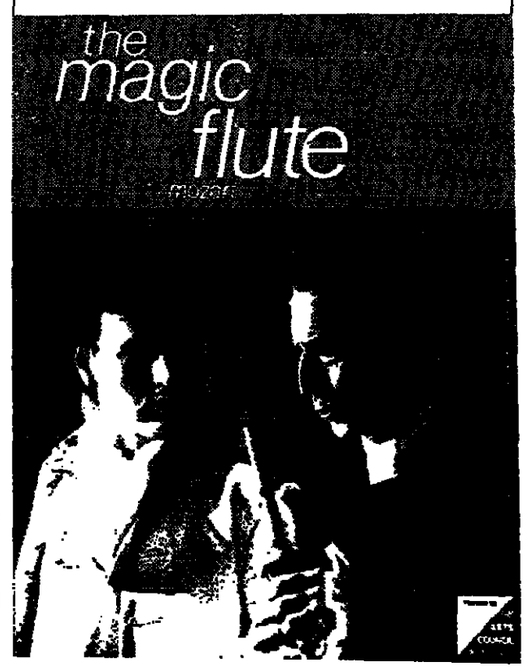
Najma Akhtar rose to prominence after winning Birmingham's Asian Song Contest in 1984. She attracted dream reviews for *Qareeb*, her UK recording debut, where her soaring voice sang *ghazals* — short love poems — and for her follow-up, *Atish*, which broadened her scope by including not only lively Punjabi folk songs but a swooning version of J.D. Souther's famous country lament, "Faithless Love".

Keyboard player Janette Mason has collaborated with singers Jimmy Somerville and Mica Paris and worked with Dutch fusion saxophonist Candy Dulfer, as well as acting as music director for TV chat-show host Jonathan Ross.

These credentials are worth emphasising at such length, because their variety and breadth made the prospect of a fusion of the three women's talents and interests a truly mouthwatering one. The presence of three dependable backing musicians — Sudanese bassist Sami El Saldhid, tabla player Inderjit Kalyana and drummer Josefina Cupido — also promised much.

In the event, the concert was relatively successful, but not as a fusion. There were occasions when Grimes and Akhtar sang movingly together, and Mason's carefully chosen keyboard settings and the rhythm section's subtle virtuosity complemented their voices effectively, but the evening's highlights were generally to be found elsewhere. One such was an account of a dream — "The Cows" — in which Grimes's huskily fragile but surprisingly strong voice was featured over Cupido's delicate percussion; another was Akhtar's silken, plaintive rendering of "Show Me The Light". It may be that certain styles of music are best left to flourish separately.

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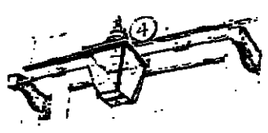
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Interviews 24th November.

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LAW

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Regulations have failed to weed out unfit company directors, reports David Conn

What a way to run the DTI

The sudden announcement by the Department of Trade and Industry two weeks ago that it is abandoning its two-year campaign to disqualify Tony Berry, the former Blue Arrow director, from being a company director, represents another blow to the DTI, already criticised for failing to secure the disqualification of directors alleged to be unfit.

Mr Berry will now apply for payment of his £1 million costs for defending the proceedings, and may sue for damages. "The DTI inspectors seem to be under pressure to come up with something," Mr Berry says. "My lawyers [Gordon Dadds] were telling them from the beginning that they did not have a case, but they carried on for two years. It's been a nightmare."

The department is undoubtedly under pressure to improve its record. In April, the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee produced a devastating report, declaring the Insolvency Service's 1988-93 record of 1,712 disqualifications to be "an inadequate response" to the number of cases of unfit conduct which had been referred to it.

The Berry case appears to support the view of many insolvency practitioners that there is a lack of method at the DTI. Chris Hanson, a senior insolvency partner at the City firm of Lovell White Durrant, says: "Some of the cases the DTI selects are marginal. Others that it doesn't select seem open-and-shut."

In August, a report by CCN Business Information found that one in four directors had been involved with a failed company in the past six years, and claimed that unfit or dishonest directors remain a blot on the [illegible] scale. There is also, according to the CBI, a nationwide regular incidence of "phoenix companies", where directors allow a company to go bust, then buy the assets cheaply and start up again under a different name, free of their debts. "Current legislation," the CBI declared, "is not effective and does not appear to be enforced."

The Insolvency Act 1986 introduced the concept of wrongful trading, which imposes personal liability on directors for the debts of failed companies where they knew or should have known that the company was going bust. Disqualification was brought in under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, to bar individual directors from running companies again, thereby protecting the public from directors replicating their misconduct. The provisions came into force, coincidentally, shortly before the UK recession was to test them to the ultimate. The number of companies going bust rose from 9,427 in 1988 to 20,825 in 1993 — a total of more than 153,000 in five years. Facing an immense workload, with 28,000 reports of unfit conduct flowing into the disqualification unit, the DTI could not cope.

> The limited company is in danger of being too wide a protection for free enterprise, and of providing a veil for the unscrupulous

"The DTI used to write back and say they had considered a report but decided not to pursue a director," John Francis, of the Society of Insolvency Practitioners, says. "Now they are saying they cannot consider it because they have not got the resources."

Peter Joyce, chief executive of the Insolvency Service Executive Agency, giving evidence to the Public Accounts Committee, accepted that staffing levels were insufficient to deal with the volume of reports. Last week the DTI office said that 15 extra staff have been recruited, and official receivers are to concentrate more on investigation. "It's early days yet but we hope to see an improvement in the number of cases," said a spokesman.

The wrongful trading provisions are also believed not to have worked in practice. Tony Bugg, head of corporate recovery at Dibb Lupton Broomhead, insolvency specialists, points to two major obstacles: "Usually, a company that goes into liquidation leaves very few assets. Liquidators have nothing to fund a case, and creditors are not in the habit of throwing more good money after bad. Anyway, directors seldom have much in the way of personal assets for an action to get at."

Only four wrongful trading actions are reported to have reached court since the Act's inception. The most recent, Sherborne Associates, is being appealed against by the liquidator, Nigel Halls of Coopers and Lybrand, after a decision by Judge Raymond Jack, QC. He refused to order the directors of a failed advertising agency to contribute to creditors, who had lost nearly £179,000 in two years. Mr Halls, who is meeting the £250,000 costs of the case out of his firm's own funds, feels let down. He says: "The spirit of the Act has not been kept to by the judicature."

Paul Stafford of the law firm Harrison Clark in Worcester, the solicitor who acted for Mr Halls, is disillusioned. "The Act improved the situation for a while," he says. "But the scandals are spreading.

"Directors are becoming increasingly aware that the sanctions are not there. I have irate creditors on the telephone to me every week, but in most cases there is nothing I can do for them."

Mr Bugg points out that the wrongful trading provisions may have a deterrent effect, leading directors to declare insolvency earlier than they otherwise would have done. There are also cases in which a liquidator will strike a deal with the directors without the need for court action. Overall, though, Mr Bugg delivers a pessimistic verdict: "The answer is that not a great deal has been achieved."

The effect of the legislation is felt in some quarters to have failed to weed out dishonest unfit directors while over-regulating the insolvency professionals. Barry Lewis, an insolvency practitioner at the London accountants Harris Lipman, says: "We are professionally qualified and licensed. And we're the good guys. Nobody is regulating the bad guys."

The DTI is now reviewing aspects of company law, but there is little in the offing to relieve the abuses of company limited liability. "People have made certain representations," says a DTI spokesman. "But directors' liability is not at this stage being reviewed."

Limited liability, introduced in 1855 to allow people to trade without committing their personal fortunes to a venture, requires a fine legislative balance. The limited company is in danger of being too wide a protection for free enterprise, and of providing a veil for the unscrupulous. The failure of recent cases will only add fuel to the criticism that the mid-1980s measures, intended to stamp out abuses, are being incompetently applied.


NICK ROGERS

Tony Berry, the former Blue Arrow chairman: he is to ask for £1 million defence costs and may sue the DTI for damages


Judge Jack: refused to order directors to pay

When judges should be judged fit to judge

Those with memories of the courteous way in which, in the past, the Lord Chancellor's Department dealt with judges may have been pleased and relieved to learn from Judge Crabtree's letter (October 12) that the recorded delivery letters to the circuit judges, warning them against acting dishonestly and committing crimes of violence, did not come from the Lord Chancellor. He had merely told the Lord Chief Justice what he thought should be in a code of conduct for judges. Is there any need for one?

The clerical muddle that followed — the letters went from a clerk in the Lord Chief's office — revealed what perhaps few appreciated, that the Lord Chancellor does exercise disciplinary powers over judges. His power to dismiss circuit judges for misconduct is statutory; but there is no definition of misconduct. Clearly, a judge who acts dishonestly should be dismissed. Lord Hailsham decided that a judge who had been convicted of smuggling whisky should be, too. In the recent past, convictions for drink-driving offences have not been considered to amount to misconduct justifying the dismissal of circuit judges. It seems likely that they will be in future. But should convictions for regulatory offences, such as cutting down designated trees or creating statutory nuisances, be considered misconduct?


BRIEF
SIR FREDERICK LAWTON

Lord Chancellors have seldom exercised this power. They would probably be wise not to extend their concepts of misconduct beyond what is generally regarded as morally reprehensible. Ever since 1700, under the Act of Settlement, Supreme Court judges can be dismissed only on the motion of both Houses of Parliament. No English judge has, but an Irish one was in 1816 for alleged publication of a seditious libel.

Limited statutory powers to dismiss have not stopped Lord Chancellors from disciplining judges by reprimanding them. In 1978, *The Times* reported that the Lord Chancellor had reprimanded Mr Justice Melford Stevenson for describing the Sexual Offences Act 1967 as the buggers' charter. Professor Robert Stevens, when trawling through the files of the Lord Chancellor's Department for material for his book, *The Independence of the Judiciary*, found that in 1954 the amiable Mr Justice Lloyd Jacob was severely reprimanded by the then Lord Chancellor for writing a letter to *The Times*, expressing his concern about the use of the nuclear deterrent.

A judge who is reprimanded knows he is unlikely to get any judicial promotion. He may even be asked to consider resignation.

Lord Chancellors are sensitive to what they consider to be political statements made by judges in or out of court. A judge who is thought to have made one is likely to receive a letter from the Lord Chancellor asking for an explanation. A reprimand may follow.

That someone should be able to restrain badly behaved and maverick judges and get rid of incompetent ones seems obvious. As head of the judiciary, the Lord Chancellor would appear to be the one to act. But when acting he has to be careful not to interfere with the independence of the judiciary. This is particularly important because he doubles his judicial function with the executive one of being the head of a department and a member of the Cabinet.

The modern political fashion for members of the House of Commons to complain to the Lord Chancellor about what they, or their constituents, consider to be inadequate sentences, or occasionally, over-severe ones, is pregnant with constitutional dangers. Recent Lord Chancellors, through their officials, have usually looked into these complaints. Judges have been asked why they sentenced as they did. It is reputed that some judges have been summoned to interviews with the Lord Chancellor. They may have left deciding that they must never again be as lenient, or severe, as they have been. Their judicial discretion will have been fettered. It would be constitutionally better if Lord Chancellors gave up investigating MPs' complaints about sentencing, telling them that the Court of Appeal has the function of quashing excessively severe sentences and the Attorney-General that of bringing to the attention of that court the unduly lenient ones.

Lord Chancellors have no specific power to get rid of incompetent judges. When the incompetence arises from lack of ability, the frequent setting aside of judgments, convictions and sentences by the Court of Appeal may induce retirement. A more difficult problem arises when a judge, who had been competent, through advancing age or severe illness becomes unable to function properly and does not appreciate that he no longer can. This has happened a few times. Persuasion is the only means of inducing retirement. If the friends and relatives of the ailing judge cannot induce retirement, the Lord Chancellor has to try. So far all the Lord Chancellors who have had to deal with this problem have acted wisely. But would it not be better for a statutory procedure to be set up under which judges after a severe illness, or a specified age, had to be declared fit to go on sitting by a medical board?

● *The author is a retired Lord Justice of Appeal.*

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Holiday snaps

AFTER criticism from unions and the press, Manchester City Council may have to review its system of staff surveillance, even though an expensive personal-injury law suit may have been avoided.

In one case, a man seeking £100,000 compensation for an alleged shoulder injury was secretly filmed during a holiday in the Canary Islands swimming and carrying suitcases. He resigned when presented with the evidence, which cost the council only £1,000 to obtain. Another staff member was filmed asleep on duty for five hours.

Phial closed

A LAWYER who went on a shooting rampage, killing two prosecutors and injuring two judges in a Texas court, has been executed. George Lott was killed by injection after representing himself. He will go down in history as the fastest execution since Texas reintroduced the death sentence — 18 months after conviction against an average of eight years.

Trust us

LAWRENCE Graham has published a guide for local authorities that are finding it difficult to fund arts, theatre, education and sports from existing budgets.

The law firm suggests that they set up charitable trusts to seek external funding and attract sponsorship.

Trollope and Co?

FORSYTE Kerman and Saunders Sobell Leigh & Dobin are merging. The new 60-lawyer firm will be called Forsyte Saunders Kerman, which could be seen as a sadly missed opportunity for the West End firms. When Isidore Kerman founded Forsyte Kerman in 1927 he took the name from *The Forsyte Saga*, Galsworthy's celebrated work.

Worth more?

QUARRY Dougall has released its London Salary Survey. Stephen Rodney, its director, says: "Salary rises are very much in evidence and they are ahead of inflation. The top rate at a City firm for lawyers who qualified this year is now £28,000 and at smaller firms up to £27,000. After eight years at their desks the City lawyers can expect to earn up to £83,500 while the rest can still hope to bring in up to £65,000.

Out of town

GENERAL Electric has started a trend in America which could be bad news for the City of London firms if it caught on here. Dubbed the "Manhattan Project" the company has decided to steer routine work, including litigation and conveyancing, away from expensive New York firms. General Counsel Ben Heineman Jr told the *National Law Journal*: "We frequently go to New York firms out of tradition and habit."

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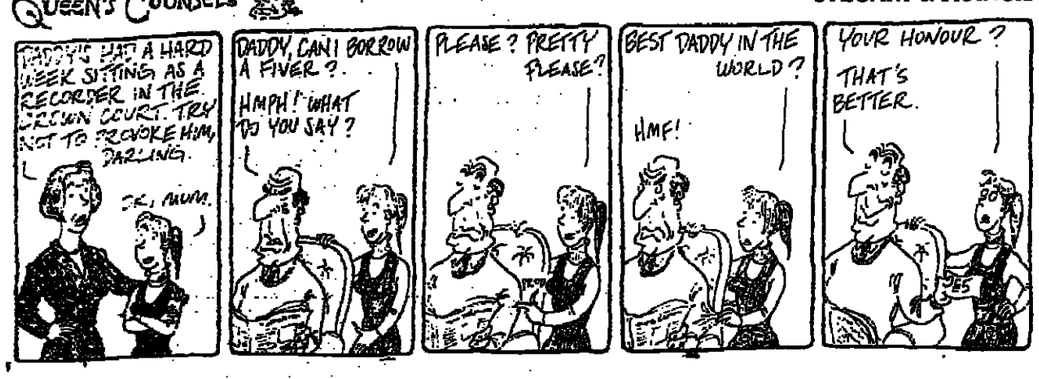
INNS AND OUTS

US specialist

McKENNA & Co is the latest firm to employ an American lawyer. Edward Swan, a derivatives-law specialist, has joined as a consultant. He says: "London is the centre for derivatives work. A good way to become established here was to join a City firm that had nobody specialising in futures and derivatives."

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Barristers who may be shorn of their powers

Neil Addison reveals the threat to the CPS in Civil Service cutbacks

Privatising the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is one of the possibilities the Government is considering as part of its general policy of cutting the size of the Civil Service.

What would be the probable consequences for barristers?

There are 650 barristers and 1,750 solicitors in the CPS but because the members of the two professions have exactly the same status as Civil Service lawyers, their professional distinctions are, for now, irrelevant.

Privatisation could make the CPS an executive agency less than tied to the Civil Service but still a national organisation. For CPS lawyers, agency status would not involve any great change. Another possibility is for the CPS to be broken up.

The CPS was created in response to the report of the 1981 Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, which recommended that local prosecuting services be formed within each police force area. That proposal was rejected by the Government because it considered that police authorities were not sufficiently independent of local government.

The recent Police and Magistrates' Courts Act has removed police authorities from local government and it is possible that the Government will now consider it acceptable to transfer the CPS to these new police authorities.

Such a move would also fit in with recent proposals to merge the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) with the CPS. This idea has aroused controversy because of the SFO's Section 2 powers, which make it an offence not to answer questions from SFO investigators. Concern has been expressed that if these powers were given to the CPS, they would eventually be used in all criminal investigations.

If, however, most prosecutions were carried out by local prosecuting services, the Department of Public Prosecutions would be left dealing with only the most serious cases of fraud, terrorism and national security in which the use of Section 2 powers might be politically acceptable. Devolution of the CPS would undoubtedly be popular with the police and could well be a politically attractive option. CPS lawyers would remain part of the public sector, with no differentiation between solicitor and barrister prosecutors.

It may be, though, that those two options are not considered radical enough and prosecutions are instead completely privatised with private legal firms being franchised to prosecute on behalf of the DPP in particular court areas. Such contracts to prosecute would be similar to the fixed fees and franchising arrangements which have already been introduced for legal aid criminal defence work. Complete privatisation would, however, affect barrister and solicitor crown prosecutors differently because of their separate professional rules for private practice.

Barristers are prevented from forming partnerships with barristers or solicitors, and barristers employed by a solicitors' firm have no rights of audience, even in magistrates' courts.

Barrister prosecutors could form only chambers, and a chambers cannot prosecute. In addition, since barristers in chambers are not allowed to write letters to their opponents, they would be unable to do their job properly, and would have to become solicitors or face unemployment.

Privatisation of the CPS could, therefore, quickly lead to a situation in which barristers ceased to prosecute in the Crown Court. The end result could be the disappearance of the Criminal Bar.

It is naive for the Bar to believe that it alone can remain insulated from economic and social change and continue operating with working practices designed for the 1890s — not the 1990s.

● The author, a member of the Bar Council, writes in a personal capacity.

CHRIS HEIMS



Barristers could be tearing their hair out if a CPS shake-up takes place

Small companies can take on Goliaths

Litigation insurer finds a new way to help

A NEW legal-expenses insurance scheme to help small companies to find the costs of litigation when in dispute against the "Goliaths" has won its first significant victory.

Only five months since its launch, an insurance scheme for commercial litigation has enabled a small company to revive its £338 million legal action against James Capel, the broker, for alleged bad advice. The Jersey-based Genora Investments is suing Capel for negligence over advice during an £111 million purchase of a property company. Capel tried to block the action, saying the funding arrangements were champerty, under which someone not involved in a court action agrees to support litigation on the promise of receiving a share of the proceeds. But lawyers for Capel have now agreed to let the case proceed.

Genora had turned for its funding to the new scheme, which lets companies insure themselves against the cost of a commercial dispute even after legal action has begun. For an agreed premium, individually assessed for each case, Lloyd's underwriters will pay all legal fees and expert witnesses' expenses of both parties to the action, plus court costs.

The scheme, which has already prompted requests for quotes from two dozen law firms in London and outside, has been launched by Litigation Protection. The company was formed by Brian Raincock and Stephen Manton, who formerly headed legal assistance subsidiaries of Sun Alliance and Royal Insurance respectively. It is aimed particularly at company owners, shareholders or creditors and, unlike other legal expenses insurance, is happy to take on claims that have already begun.

On the advice of lawyers, Litigation Protection weeds out cases with little prospect of success. Those litigants considered to have good cases can then obtain insurance up to a maximum payout of £500,000.

An important aspect is that if the court requires a company to put down, say, half a million pounds as security, the insured company is able to give a guarantee of the sum for a premium of only £200,000 — and in that way stay in the action.

If the case is lost, the scheme meets both the insured's and the opponent's costs, according to the level of cover chosen. If the result of the hearing is indeterminate and each side has to pay its own costs, the policyholder is still covered.

Mr Raincock says: "Many small companies are forced to give up when faced with a big opponent, or they try to fight and get driven to bankruptcy. This scheme means they are in with a chance."

The scheme, he says, is worthwhile only for those in disputes where damages are likely to exceed £100,000. "You can also argue that if you are certain you will win, why pay the premium?" he adds. "But in litigation there is no such thing as a guarantee."

FRANCES GIBB

Bringing justice to everyone's grasp

Tony Holland, an adviser to the Lord Chancellor's team reviewing legal services, argues for fairer legal aid

The debate about how to extend the scope of legal aid within the existing budget has got off to a bad start. This is primarily because commentators seem obsessed with the word "fundholding" (the idea of middlemen to administer and grant legal aid). They also seem to think that the current fundamental review of legal services by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, is concerned with cost-cutting. In reality, the review is trying to find a better way than at present of allocating the legal aid budget.

The fundamental review of legal aid is not Treasury-led — only one member of its team of almost a dozen has come from the Treasury. The cross-sectional interest ensured that a diverse number of ideas flowed thick and fast during the meetings that took place over the past six months.

There were no conclusions. Instead, a collection of ideas for discussion and debate was published in a pamphlet, the "Social Market Foundation". One idea was that of fundholding. At present, trade unions are fundholders for their members and allocate cases to a few carefully selected firms of lawyers who compete on price and on specialisation.

The trade union member has to accept that he or she has little choice when seeking legal advice from the union. Solicitors could be fundholders in the context of High Court litigation. The possibilities are endless and this is what the debate will throw up. Plainly, some will be workable and some will not be.

The issue of limiting the choice of adviser will feature heavily if it is seen to lead to more access in more areas in which there is need. The key to any successful idea is finding bundles of cases that can lead to efficiency in volume.

Another concept in the field of criminal legal aid was the court calendar contract. This might produce a realistic solution to the problem that some of the advice given in a magistrates' court is probably not required, whereas in other equally important areas in the same arena, advice is needed but is not available.

Government ministers may be taken with my apparently Pauline conversion to the principle of capping the income of my colleagues. But if they are, it will be premature because capping is not involved. Like St Paul, however, I do believe in a great dissemination of good news and in particular the kind of news that is represented by help and advice for those who need it but for whom at the moment the door is firmly closed.

The legal profession is at a crossroads in relation to legal aid. It can either look for different methods of delivering a service to more people or it can turn its back on looking at change, thereby abandoning the rightful role that it should play in such change.

I believe that a fair and just society demands access, at a reasonable cost, to advice on society's many complex issues. There are many ways in which such access can be provided, not all of which necessarily involve lawyers.

Lawyers, however, probably need to be involved where the issues require the involvement of a public forum with adversarial overtones, the likelihood of imprisonment or the loss of one's job or home.

No doubt other areas will suggest themselves in the future. That future must be one, however, which delivers the kind of service that is presently not available to the vast swath of the population. Until it does, Parliament will be engaged in meaningless exercises when it creates more and more rights, few of which most of the public can utilise.

● The author, senior partner of Foot & Bowden, was a co-author of the "Social Market Foundation" pamphlet, in which the idea of fundholders for legal aid was first floated.

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Human Rights Law Report

Strasbourg

No breach of human rights in Army's Belfast arrest

Murray v United Kingdom
(Case No 13/1993/408/487)
Before R. Ryssdal, President and Judges R. Bernhardt, F. Golcuklu, R. Macdonald, A. Spielman, S. K. Martens, I. Foighel, R. Pekkanen, A. N. Loizou, J. M. Morenilla, Sir John Freeland, A. B. Baka, M. A. Lopes Rocha, L. Wildhaber, G. Mifsud Bonnici, J. Makarczyk, P. Jambrek and K. Jungwiert
Acting Registrar H. Petzold
[Judgment October 28]

The European Court of Human Rights *found no* violation of the European Convention on Human Rights in relation to a number of complaints made by six members of the Murray family concerning *Mrs Murray's arrest* and detention by the Army under special criminal legislation enacted to deal with acts of terrorism connected with the affairs of Northern Ireland.

In particular, the Court held, by 14 votes to 4, that there had been no *violation* of Mrs Murray's right to liberty and security of person as guaranteed by article 5(1), or of her right under article 5(2) to be informed promptly of the reasons for her arrest (13 votes to 5), or of her right under article 5(5) to compensation for wrongful arrest (15 votes to 5), or of the six applicants' right under article 8 to respect for their private and family life and their home (15 votes to 3).

Article 5 of the Convention provides:

"1 Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law: . . . (c) the lawful arrest or detention of a person effected for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority on reasonable suspicion of having committed an offence . . .

"2 Everyone who is arrested shall be informed promptly, in a language which he understands, of the reasons for his arrest and of any charge against him.

"4 Everyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention shall be decided speedily by a court and his release ordered if the detention is not lawful.

"5 Everyone who has been the victim of arrest or detention in contravention of the provisions of this article shall have an enforceable right to compensation."

Article 8 provides: "1 Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.

"2 There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others."

The six applicants were all Irish citizens. The first applicant, Mrs Margaret Murray, and the second applicant, Mr Thomas Murray, were husband and wife. The other four applicants, Mark, Alana, Michaela and Rossina Murray, were their children. At the relevant time in 1982 all six applicants resided together in the same house in Belfast.

In June 1982 two of the first applicant's brothers were convicted in the United States of America of arms offences connected with the purchase of weapons for the Provisional IRA.

Mrs Murray was arrested by the British Army at the family home in Belfast at 7.00am on July 26, 1982, under section 14 of the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1978.

That provision, as construed by the domestic courts, empowered the Army to arrest and detain for up to four hours a person suspected of the commission of a criminal offence, provided that the suspicion of the arresting officer was honestly and genuinely held. According to the Army, Mrs Murray was arrested on suspicion of involvement in the collection of money for the purchase of arms for the Provisional IRA in the USA.

While she was dressing, the other applicants were roused and asked to assemble in the living room. The soldiers in the meantime recorded details concerning the applicants and their home. On being asked twice by Mrs Murray under what section of the legislation she was being arrested, the arresting officer, a woman corporal, replied, section 14.

Section 14 of the 1978 Act at the relevant time provided:

"(1) A member of her Majesty's forces on duty may arrest without warrant, and detain for not more than four hours, a person whom he suspects of committing, having committed or being about to commit any offence.

"(2) A person effecting an arrest under this section complies with any rule of law requiring him to state the ground of arrest if he states that he is effecting the arrest as a member of her Majesty's forces.

"(3) For the purpose of arresting a person under this section a member of her Majesty's forces may enter and search any premises or other place — (a) where that person is, or (b) if that person is suspected of being a terrorist or of having committed an offence involving the use or possession of an explosive, explosive substance or firearm, where that person is suspected of being."

Mrs Murray was then taken to Springfield Road Army Screening Centre and detained two hours for questioning. She refused to answer any questions, save to give her name. At some stage during her stay at the centre she was photographed without her knowledge or consent. She was released at 9.45am without charge.

In 1984 Mrs Murray brought an unsuccessful action before the High Court for false imprisonment and other torts against the Ministry of Defence.

Evidence was given by Mrs Murray and by the corporal. Mrs Murray acknowledged that she had been in contact with her brothers and had been to the USA.

Although the corporal did not have a precise recollection of the interrogation of Mrs Murray at the Army centre, she remembered that questions had been asked about money and about America. The trial judge accepted the testimony of the corporal as being truthful.

Mrs Murray appealed, again challenging the legality of her arrest and certain related matters in the Court of Appeal, which rejected her claims in February 1987. The Court of Appeal granted her leave to appeal to the House of Lords. That appeal was dismissed in May 1988.

The 1978 Act under which Mrs Murray was arrested formed part of the special legislation enacted in the United Kingdom in an attempt to deal with the threat of terrorist violence in Northern Ireland. Section 14 was replaced in 1987 by a provision requiring that an arrest be based on reasonable suspicion.

In the application lodged with the European Commission of Human Rights on September 28, 1988, Mrs Murray complained that her arrest and detention for questioning had given rise to a violation of article 5(1)and (2), for which she had had no enforceable right to compensation as guaranteed by article 5(5), and that the taking and keeping of a photograph and personal details about her had been in breach of her right to respect for private life under article 8.

The other five applicants alleged a violation of article 5(1), (2) and (5) as a result of being required to assemble for half an hour in one room of their house while the first applicant prepared to leave with the Army. They further argued that the recording and retention of certain personal details about them, such as their names and relationship to the first applicant, had violated their right to respect for private life under article 8.

All six applicants claimed that the entry into and search of their home by the Army were contrary to their right to respect for their private and family life and their home under article 8 of the Convention, and that, contrary to article 13, no effective remedies existed under domestic law in respect of their foregoing complaints under the Convention.

On December 10, 1991 the Commission declared admissible all the first applicant's complaints and the other applicants' complaint under article 8 in connection with the entry into and search of the family home. The remainder of the application was declared inadmissible.

In its report of February 17, 1993 the Commission expressed the opinion that:

In the case of the first applicant, there had been a violation of article 5(1) (eleven votes to three), of article 5(2) (ten votes to four) and of article 5(5) (eleven votes to three),

There had been no violation of article 8 (thirteen votes to one),

It was not necessary to examine further the first applicant's complaint under article 13 concerning remedies for arrest, detention and the lack of information about the reasons for arrest (thirteen votes to one),

In the case of the first applicant, there had been no violation of article 13 in relation to either the entry and search of her home (unanimously) or the taking and keeping of a photograph and personal details about her (ten votes to four).

In its judgment, the European Court of Human Rights held:

I General approach

As stated in previous judgments, for the purposes of interpreting and applying the relevant provisions of the Convention, due account had to be taken of the special nature of terrorist crime, the threat it posed to democratic society and the exigencies of dealing with it: see *inter alia, Fox, Campbell and Hartley v United Kingdom* (*The Times* October 16, 1990; Series A No 182, p15, paragraph 28), citing *Brogan and Others v United Kingdom* (*The Times* November 30, 1988; Series A No 145-B, p27, paragraph 48).

II Alleged breach of article 5(1)

Mrs Murray argued that, contrary to paragraph 1(c) of article 5, she had not been arrested on reasonable suspicion of having committed a criminal offence and that the purpose of her arrest and subsequent detention had not been to *bring her before a competent* legal authority.

A Lawfulness

Before the Convention institutions the first applicant did not dispute that her arrest and detention were lawful under Northern Ireland law and, in particular, in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law, as required by article 5(1).

She submitted that she had not been arrested on reasonable suspicion of having committed a criminal offence and that the purpose of her arrest and subsequent detention had not been to bring her before a competent legal authority within the meaning of paragraph 1(c).

B Reasonable suspicion

It was relevant but not decisive that the domestic legislation at the time provided for an honest and genuine, rather than reasonable, suspicion. Having a reasonable suspicion presupposed the existence of facts or information which would satisfy an objective observer that the person concerned might have committed the offence.

The level of suspicion required was not the same as that for the bringing of a charge. In that respect, the length of the deprivation of liberty at risk, a maximum of four hours under section 14 of the 1978 Act, might also be material.

What could be regarded as reasonable in relation to a suspicion depended on all the circumstances of the particular case. In view of the difficulties inherent in the investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences in Northern Ireland, the reasonableness of the suspicion justifying such arrests could not always be judged according to the same standards that were applied when dealing with conventional crime.

Contracting states could not be asked to establish the reasonableness of the suspicion grounding the arrest of a suspected terrorist by disclosing information or facts leading to confidential sources, thereby placing the lives and safety of others in danger.

The Court accepted that the power of arrest granted to the Army by section 14 of the 1978 Act represented a bona fide attempt by a democratically elected Parliament to deal with terrorist crime under the rule of law, and it was prepared to attach some credence to the United Kingdom Government's declaration as to the existence of reliable but confidential information grounding the suspicion against Mrs Murray.

None the less, the Court had to be furnished with at least some facts or information capable of satisfying it that the arrested person was reasonably suspected of having committed the alleged offence, particularly where domestic law had set a lower threshold by merely requiring honest suspicion.

In that connection, the Court had regard to relevant findings of fact made by the domestic courts in the civil proceedings brought by Mrs Murray, to the recent conviction of her brothers in the USA of offences connected with the purchase of arms for the Provisional IRA, to her visits to the USA and her contacts with her brothers there, and to the collaboration with trustworthy persons residing in Northern Ireland which was implied in the offences of which her brothers were convicted.

The Court concluded that, in the particular circumstances, there did exist sufficient facts or information which would provide a plausible and objective basis for a suspicion that Mrs Murray might have committed the offence of involvement in the collection of funds for the Provisional IRA.

C Purpose of the arrest

In Mrs Murray's submission it was clear from the surrounding circumstances that she had not been arrested for the purpose of bringing her before the competent legal authority but merely for the purpose of interrogating her with a view to gathering general intelligence.

The domestic courts, after hearing witnesses, had found that the purpose of her arrest had been to establish facts concerning the offence of which she was suspected. No cogent elements had been produced in the proceedings before the Convention institutions which could lead the Court to depart from that finding of fact.

It could be assumed that, had the suspicion against Mrs Murray been confirmed, she would have been charged with a criminal offence and brought before a court. Her arrest and detention had therefore been effected for the purpose specified in article 5(1)(c).

D Conclusion

The Court therefore concluded, Judges Loizou, Morenilla, Makarczyk and Jambrek dissenting, that there had been no violation of article 5(1) in respect of the first applicant.

III Alleged breach of article 5(2)

Mrs Murray submitted that at no time during her arrest or detention had she been given any or sufficient information as to the grounds for her arrest.

The Court pointed out that whether the content and promptness of the information conveyed were sufficient had to be assessed in each case according to its special features.

While the reasons for the arrest had not been sufficiently indicated when Mrs Murray was taken into custody, they had been brought to her attention during her subsequent interrogation. Moreover, the interval of a few hours that had elapsed between arrest and interrogation could not be regarded as falling outside the constraints of time imposed by the notion of promptness.

The Court thus concluded, Judges Loizou, Morenilla, Makarczyk, Mufsud Bonnici and Jambrek dissenting, that there had been no breach of article 5(2).

IV Alleged breach of article 5(5)

No violation of paragraphs 1 or 2 of article 5 having been found, no issue arose under paragraph 5, Judges Loizou, Morenilla, Makarczyk, Mufsud Bonnici and Jambrek dissenting.

V Alleged violation of article 8

All six applicants claimed to be the victims of a violation of article 8. They complained about the entry into and search of their family home by the Army, including the confinement of the family members other than Mrs Murray for a short while in one room.

Mrs Murray also objected to the recording, at the Army centre, of personal details concerning herself and her family, as well as the photograph which was taken of her without her knowledge or consent.

The Court held, however, that the resultant interferences with the applicants' exercise of their right to respect for their private and family life and their home were justified under article 8(2).

In the first place each of the various measures complained of was found to have been in accordance with the law.

The Court further considered that the measures, which pursued the legitimate aim of the prevention of crime, were necessary in a democratic society. In striking the balance between the exercise by the individual of the right guaranteed to him or her under article 8(1) and the necessity for the state to take effective measures for the prevention of terrorist crime, regard had to be had to the responsibility of an elected government in a democratic society to protect its citizens and its institutions against the threats posed by organised terrorism and to the special problems involved in the arrest and detention of persons suspected of terrorist-linked offences.

The domestic courts had rightly adverted to the conditions of extreme tension under which such arrests in Northern Ireland had to be carried out. As regards the entry and search, the means employed by the authorities could not be considered to have been disproportionate to the legitimate aim pursued. A similar conclusion was arrived at as regards the recording and retaining of personal details, including the photograph of Mrs Murray.

Hence, there had been no violation of article 8 in respect of any of the applicants, Judges Loizou, Morenilla and Makarczyk dissenting.

VI Alleged violation of article 13

Mrs Murray submitted that, contrary to article 13, she had had no remedy under domestic law in respect of her claims under articles 5 and 8.

The Court first held that it was not necessary to examine under article 13 her complaint concerning remedies for her claims as to arrest, detention and lack of information about the reasons for her arrest (article 5(1) and (2), since she had at no stage raised any complaint under article 5(4), the Convention provision which set forth a specific entitlement to a remedy in relation to arrest and detention.

In relation to her claims as to entry and search and as to the taking and retention of a photograph and personal details (article 8), the Court found that in both those regards effective remedies were available to her under domestic law.

Her feeble prospects of success in the light of the particular circumstances of her case did not detract from the effectiveness of the remedies for the purpose for the purpose of article 13. Consequently, the Court held unanimously that the facts of her case did not disclose a violation of article 13.

Refusal of legal aid for appeal is denial of prisoners' rights

Boner v United Kingdom
(Case No 30/1993/425/504)
Maxwell v United Kingdom
(Case No 31/1993/426/505)
Before R. Ryssdal, President and Judges R. Macdonald, J. De Meyer, E. Palm, J. M. Morenilla, F. Bigi, Sir John Freeland, A. B. Baka and J. Makarczyk
Acting Registrar H. Petzold
[Judgment October 28]

The European Court of Human Rights *held unanimously that* there had been a violation of article 6(3)(c) of the European Convention on Human Rights in that Mr A. Boner and Mr P. Maxwell were refused legal aid for their representation at the hearing of their appeals before the High Court of Justiciary, in Scotland.

Article 6 provides: "3 Everyone charged with a criminal offence has the following minimum rights: . . . (c) to defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing or, if he has not sufficient means to pay for legal assistance, to be given it free when the interests of justice so require. . ."

The Boner case

Mr Anthony Boner was a British citizen born in 1960. He lived in Glasgow.

On December 14, 1989 three masked men, armed with a shotgun and a knife, carried out a robbery at a post office in Glen village, Falkirk, in the course of which they assaulted three post-office employees. They also caused damage to a motor car.

Following investigations, Mr Boner and two other men were arrested and remanded in custody.

Between March 29 and April 10, 1990 the applicant stood trial in the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh on charges connected with the assault and armed robbery. He received legal aid and was represented by solicitor and counsel during the trial.

During the course of the trial, a prosecution witness, Mrs G, entered the courtroom before she was due to give evidence to speak to a co-accused of the applicant against whom charges had been dropped.

The trial judge concluded, on the basis of a report made at his request by the prosecuting counsel, that in the circumstances no injustice would be done by admitting Mrs G as a witness. She subsequently provided evidence in support of the prosecution case.

Mr Boner was convicted and sentenced to eight years imprisonment. He appealed against his conviction, two of the six grounds of appeal being concerned with the admission of evidence from the witness in question.

However, his application for legal aid was refused by the Scottish Legal Aid Board since the board was not satisfied that he had substantial grounds for making an appeal.

In such circumstances, Mr Boner had been unable to find counsel willing to represent him.

As a result, the applicant, who had no legal knowledge, had to present his own case at the hearing of the appeal, while the Crown was represented by counsel. The appeal was unanimously dismissed.

Mr Boner applied to the European Commission of Human Rights on April 4, 1991. He relied on article 6(3)(c) of the Convention, complaining that he had been refused legal aid for his appeal.

The Commission declared the application admissible on December 9, 1992.

In its report of May 4, 1993 it expressed the opinion, by seventeen votes to two, that there had been a violation of article 6(3)(c).

The Maxwell case

Mr Peter Maxwell was a British citizen born in 1944. He lived in Perth.

On February 14 or 15, 1990 two masked men broke into a private house, in Stevenston, Scotland. They assaulted the occupant causing him severe injury and permanent disfigurement.

On February 19, 1990 Mr Maxwell was arrested together with another man. On May 29, 1990 the applicant was convicted and sentenced to five years imprisonment. He had been granted legal aid and was represented by solicitor and counsel during the trial.

Mr Maxwell applied to the Scottish Legal Aid Board for legal aid in order to appeal against conviction.

The board rejected that application because it considered that there were no substantial grounds for an appeal.

In those circumstances, the applicant, who had no legal knowledge, was unable to find counsel willing to represent him and had to prepare and submit his own grounds of appeal. He subsequently addressed the appellate court on them. The appeal was dismissed.

Mr Maxwell applied to the Commission on March 25, 1991.

He relied on article 6(1) and (3)(c) of the Convention, complaining that he had been refused legal aid for his appeal. The applicant made further submissions under article 13.

On April 2, 1992, the Commission declared all the complaints inadmissible with the exception of the first one which was declared admissible on December 9, 1992. In its report of May 4, 1993 it expressed the opinion, by seventeen votes to two, that there had been a violation of article 6(3)(c) of the Convention.

In its judgments, the European Court of Human Rights held:

I Alleged violation of article 6(3)(c)

Subparagraph (c) of article 6(3) attached two conditions to an accused's right to receive legal aid.

The first, lack of sufficient means to pay for legal assistance, was not in dispute in the present case. The only issue before the Court was therefore whether the interests of justice required that the applicants be granted such assistance free.

In that connection, the Court reiterated that the manner in which paragraph 3(c) of article 6 was to be applied in relation to appellate or cassation courts depended upon the special features of the proceedings involved, account had be taken of the entirety of the proceedings conducted in the domestic legal order and of the role of the appellate or cassation court therein: see, inter alia, *Monnell and Morris v United Kingdom* (*The Times* March 3, 1987; Series A, No 115, p22, paragraph 56).

The Scottish system of criminal appeals granted all persons a right to appeal. No special leave was required. The High Court of Justiciary, in its appellate function, has wide powers to dispose of appeals.

The procedure was not limited to specific grounds, any alleged miscarriage of justice could be challenged. Moreover, the proceedings always involved an oral hearing at which the crown was represented.

However, not all appellants who qualified on financial grounds obtained legal assistance. An independent body, the Scottish Legal Aid Board, decided on the basis of a file whether an applicant had substantial grounds for taking an appeal and whether it was in the interests of justice that he should have legal representation.

The Commission and Mr Boner's lawyers referred to *Granger v United Kingdom* (*The Times* March 29, 1990; Series A No 174), where the Court had found a violation and concluded that there were substantial similarities between *Granger* and the present case. The government had sought to distinguish the two cases.

The Court noted that the introduction, in the wake of the *Granger* judgment, of a new practice more favourable to the unrepresented appellant was undoubtedly a positive development the effect of which was that there could be no repetition of the unfairness which was found to have occurred in the *Granger* case.

Nevertheless, the fact remained that without the services of a legal practitioner the applicants were unable competently to address the court on the legal issues and thus to defend themselves effectively.

Moreover, the appeal court had wide powers to dispose of the appeals and its decision was final.

Of even greater relevance, however, was the fact that the applicants had been sentenced to eight and five years imprisonment respectively. For them therefore the issue at stake was an extremely important one.

Given the nature of the proceedings, the wide powers of the High Court, the limited capacity of an unrepresented appellant to present a legal argument and, above all, the importance of the issue at stake in view of the severity of the sentence, the Court considered that the interests of justice required that the applicants be granted legal aid for representation at the hearing of their appeal.

II Application of article 50

The Court held in both cases that the non-pecuniary damage which the violation could have caused was sufficiently compensated by the finding that there had been a breach of article 6.

As far as the pecuniary damage alleged by Mr Maxwell was concerned, the court noted that it could not speculate as to the outcome of the appeal had legal aid been granted and rejected the claim.

Finally, the Court awarded Mr Boner £7,500.28 (VAT included) less FFr16,275.79 already paid by way of legal aid, in respect of costs and expenses.

Chancery Division — Law Report November 1 1994 — Queen's Bench Division

Effect of Factors Act on retention of title clauses

In re Highway Foods International Ltd (in administrative receivership)
Before Mr Edward Nugee, QC
[Judgment October 17]

If goods were sold subject to a retention of title clause and the buyer then sold the goods on to a sub-purchaser, that sale also being subject to a retention of title clause, and delivered the goods to the sub-purchaser, unless and until the sub-purchaser paid the buyer the price of the goods, the original seller could then claim title to the goods in the hands of the sub-purchaser.

The combined effect of sections 2(1) and 9 of the Factors Act 1889 did not serve to pass the title of the goods delivered under the second agreement for sale to the sub-purchaser.

The seller was therefore able to repossess the goods before being paid by the buyer and sell then direct to the sub-purchaser.

Mr Edward Nugee, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division so held in a reserved judgment on an application by the receivers of Highway Foods International Ltd, Mr Brian Mills and Mr Peter Anthony Lawrence, against C. Harris (Wholesale Meat) Ltd for directions pursuant to section 35 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

Mr Nigel Burroughs for the receivers; Mr Jeremy Callman for Harris.

HIS LORDSHIP said that between December 7 and 30 Harris supplied a large quantity of meat to Highway at a total price of £30,897.04 on Harris's standard terms and conditions including paragraph 5, a retention of title clause. Payment was to be made within 28 days. Highway sub-sold the meat to Kingfry Meatproducts Ltd and delivered it to Kingfry's premises between December 8, 1992 and January 7, 1993.

The meat was sub-sold on Highway's standard terms and conditions.

Payment was to be made within 21 days of delivery of the meat and Highway's conditions of sale also included a retention of title clause.

On January 13, 1993 Kingfry complained to Harris that a metal tag had been found in the meat.

After discussion it was agreed that Harris would repossess the meat, or at least 90 per cent of it, 10 per cent having already been processed, and purporting to act under paragraph 5 of its contract with Highway would carry out a thorough investigation and would then re-supply Kingfry with the meat once it was confident that it was safe for use.

It was further agreed that the price Kingfry would pay Harris would be no more than the price Highway would have paid Harris, £27,703.60 for 90 per cent of the original consignment.

On January 29, Harris wrote to Highway saying:

"Following the non-payment of these goods supplied by our company we have exercised our rights under our conditions of sale paragraph 5."

On February 1, Harris wrote to Kingfry saying:

"Under our terms and conditions of sale ownership of the goods does not vest in Highway Foods International Ltd until payment . . . we have exercised our right under paragraph 5 of the terms and conditions of sale . . . As you are willing to purchase the goods directly from us, we are arranging for a credit note to be issued to Highway . . . and enclose our invoices . . . in respect of the agreed sale of these goods."

On February 2, 1993 Mr Mills and Mr Lawrence were appointed administrative receivers of Highway. Subsequently they notified Kingfry that they denied Harris's claim to be entitled to possession of the meat or to the proceeds of the sub-sale to Kingfry.

Kingfry subsequently transferred the sum representing the price Highway agreed to pay Harris for the whole consignment of meat, namely £30,897.04, into a deposit account held jointly by the solicitors for the receivers and Harris to await the court's decision.

The receivers now sought directions as to whether Harris had, inter alia, a proprietary interest in the £30,897.04.

Harris claimed that it had a proprietary interest in the sum, either as the proceeds of a direct sale by Harris to Kingfry, or as the proceeds of the original sale from Harris to Highway which were held on trust for Harris.

The receivers argued that title to the meat passed to Kingfry on delivery to Kingfry by virtue of section 9 of the 1889 Act and accordingly Harris was not entitled to repossess the meat and had only an action in debt or conversion against Highway, which gave it no proprietary interest in the proceeds of the sub-sale.

Section 9 of the 1889 Act was identical to section 25 of the Sale of Goods Act with the significant exception that it also related to goods obtained "under any agreement for sale, pledge or other disposition" as well as an actual sale, pledge or other disposition.

Since section 9 of the 1889 Act had not been repealed, and if those words gave it a wider operation than section 25 of the 1979 Act, advantage could be taken of them.

The receivers said that Highway, having agreed to buy the meat and obtained possession of it with the consent of Harris, delivered it under an agreement for sale to Kingfry; that that agreement was a sale or other disposition of the goods within section 2(1) of the 1889 Act; that that disposition was as valid as if it had been expressly authorised by Harris; and that the title to the meat therefore passed to Kingfry.

There was an obvious weakness in that line of reasoning. Had Highway actually sold the meat to Kingfry, his Lordship did not think that Harris could have disputed that title would have passed.

But the contract between Highway and Kingfry was not a sale but an agreement for sale, under which the title was not to pass until, at the earliest, Highway had been paid in full for the meat. For the distinction between a sale and an agreement for sale see sections 2(4) and (5) of the Sale of Goods Act 1979.

On January 13, Highway had not been paid any part of the purchase price. Assuming, as was required by the combined effect of section 2(1) and 9 of the 1889 Act, that Highway's agreement for sale was as valid as if it had been expressly authorised by Harris, title would not have passed to Kingfry by that date, and there would be nothing to divest Harris of the title which it had retained by paragraph 5 of its contract with Highway.

Accordingly the meat was still the property of Harris when it retook possession on that date and agreed to sell it to Kingfry.

That was the conclusion reached in *Benjamin's Sale of Goods* (fourth edition (1992) paragraph 5-128):

"The title of sub-purchasers from the buyer of goods supplied subject to a reservation of title provision in a *Romalpa* clause [*Aluminium Industrie Vaassen BV v Romalpa Aluminium Ltd* ([1976] 1 WLR 676)] will ordinarily not be affected by the fact that the buyer is not the owner of the goods.

"They will acquire a good title under section 25(1) of the Sale of Goods Act 1979 or under section 2(1) of the Factors Act 1889, or because the buyer has the express or implied authority of the seller to sell the goods in the ordinary course of business and confer a good title on sub-purchasers.

"More difficulty, however, arises where the buyer in turn agrees to sell the goods to a sub-purchaser subject to a retention of title provision, and delivers the goods to the sub-purchaser.

"In such a case it would seem that, unless and until the sub-purchaser has paid the price of the goods or satisfied such other conditions as may have been stipulated by the buyer for the passing of property to the sub-purchaser, the seller would be entitled to claim the goods as his property in the hands of the sub-purchaser."

Benjamin added a footnote: "*Hanson (W.) (Harrow) Ltd v Rapid Civil Engineering Ltd* ((1987) 38 Build LR 106). But the sub-purchaser may be able to rely on the words 'or under any agreement for sale . . . or other disposition' in section 9 of the Factors Act 1889."

Mr Burroughs took up the suggestion in the footnote and argued that the fact that the contract between Highway and Kingfry was only an agreement for sale and was subject to a *Romalpa* clause did not prevent the title passing to Kingfry.

In his Lordship's judgment the suggestion was not well founded.

It was quite true that, under section 9, unlike section 25 of the Sale of Goods Act 1979, section 2(1) applied where the buyer in possession had entered into an agreement for sale to a sub-purchaser as well as where he had actually sold; but the effect of section 2(1) was only to render the buyer's agreement for sale as valid as if it had been expressly authorised by the seller; and that was not enough to get the sub-purchaser home if the conditions for the passing of title under the buyer's agreement for sale to the sub-purchaser had not been satisfied.

So far as the unprocessed meat was concerned, therefore, his Lordship had no doubt that Harris retained the title at the date it repossessed it.

He therefore held that Harris was entitled to the purchase price of the meat which it repossessed and in respect of which it sent Kingfry an invoice for £27,703.60.

Harris's claim to be entitled to the purchase price of the meat which had already been processed and which accordingly it did not repossess depended on rather different considerations and he rejected it.

Accordingly the receivers and not Harris were entitled to the purchase price of the processed meat, namely £3,193.44.

Solicitors: Hammond Suddards; Cornish & Co, Ilford.

Date of assessing value of property

In re S (Confiscation order)
Before Mr Justice Dyson
[Judgment October 10]

When considering whether to grant a certificate under section 83 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 that an applicant had insufficient realisable property to pay the amount to be recovered under a confiscation order, a judge was obliged only to assess the amount of realisable property at the date of the application and was not concerned with the reasons why the value of assets might have declined since the confiscation order was made.

Mr Justice Dyson so held in the Queen's Bench Division giving judgment in open court after a hearing in chambers when dismissing an application under section 83 of the 1988 Act for a certificate that the applicant, S, had insufficient realisable property for the payment of the amount remaining to be recovered under a confiscation order made by the crown court.

Mr Ian Winter for the applicant; Mr Martin Pinfold for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE DYSON said that at the confiscation order stage the court was concerned to assess the value of realisable property.

If at that stage the defendant had dissipated any assets they were not included in the valuation unless the dissipation was in the form of a gift caught by section 74(10).

It seemed that if at the section 83(1) stage the realisable property valued did not include assets dissipated since the confiscation order that was entirely consistent with the approach adopted at the confiscation order stage.

Section 83 provided for a two-stage process.

At the first stage the court simply decided whether the realisable property was inadequate for the payment of the amount remaining to be recovered under the confiscation order.

That exercise involved a factual enquiry into the value of the realisable property at the time the matter came to court.

That seemed to be the plain and clear effect of the language of section 83(1).

The realisable property either was or was not adequate. If it was not adequate the court was required to issue a certificate and give its reasons.

The only qualification to plain language of section 83(1) was given in subsection (2).

That interpretation was not unreasonable since questions of fairness, the reasons for dissipation and so on came into play at the second stage, when the applicant armed with his certificate of inadequacy made his application under section 83(3) of the Act for a variation of the confiscation order.

The crown court or magistrates' court had power to substitute for the amount to be recovered such lesser amount as the court thought just in the circumstances.

The reason given for a certificate of inadequacy under section 83(1) would no doubt assist the court to decide what lesser amount, if any, it thought just to substitute.

Solicitors: Kingsley Napley; Serious Fraud Office.

Novel approach brings rewards for all

Richard Evans is impressed by an Australian example which has much to offer British racing

DESPITE the significant advances made by British racing in the 1990s, notably the creation of the British Horseracing Board (BHB), winning the campaign for Sunday racing and coaxing the government into making important tax concessions, the sport is still blighted by a financial inequality which threatens its future success and prosperity.

The meagre return racing receives from the £4.6 billion betting turnover it generates each year is fundamentally unfair. Levy income of £53 million, compared to estimated off-course bookmaker profits of around £150 million and government tax of £350 million, tells its own story. Yet the scale of the inequality only becomes apparent when set against what happens in Australia, and in particular in Victoria, home of the Melbourne Cup.

In 1994-95, racing in Victoria alone will receive at least Aus$100 million (£45 million) from betting, more than the probable levy due to *all* British racing this year. That from a state with a population of only four million and the equivalent of just 630 betting shops.

The comparison is interesting in its own right, but what is startling, and highly relevant to Britain, is that the money will come from a private sector bookmaking company. The equivalent of Ladbrokes, William Hill or Corals is handing over $100 million, yet still plans to distribute a handsome profit to its new shareholders.

The deal follows the successful privatisation in Victoria this August of TAB (Totalizator Agency Board), the British equivalent of the Tote. The way TAB Corps was set up, with government, racing and betting interests working together, is an invaluable blueprint. It should be seized at once by Lord Hartington and Tristram Ricketts at the British Horseracing Board, adapted to British circumstances, and be championed as the financial model for British racing as it approaches the 21st century.

As Victoria's system proves, there are benefits for all. The bookmaker can raise capital and compete freely against other forms of gambling, such as electronic gaming machines, bingo and fixed odds sports betting. The government continues to receive a substantial sum, while racing, the third largest employer in the state, can flourish.

The breakdown of the financial agreement between TAB Corps and racing, enshrined in statute and set to last 18 years, makes fascinating reading. TAB pays $50 million a year until 1996-97 for the staging of meetings in Victoria. In subsequent years, the fee will be indexed to the growth of off-course turnover.

A product supply fee, for producing information on race fields, track conditions and betting details, will be worth 18.8 per cent of net betting — after winning punters have been paid out and the *government has taken its cut* — equivalent to 3.2 per cent of turnover, or $57 to $60 million this year. In addition to a marketing fee of $2.5 million, racing also gets 25 per cent of profits from "joint ventures" such as gaming machines. That should produce a further $22 million.

In total, the package is worth $131.5 million, with thoroughbred racing receiving 73 per cent and the rest going to harness and greyhound racing. Add horse racing's take from on-course bookmakers and its annual revenue will exceed $100 million.

What is in it for TAB Corps's new shareholders? Plenty, by all accounts. A forecast first year dividend of 6.6 per cent is likely to swell in future as the corporation extends into new gambling ventures from which it will keep all the profits. As one TAB executive said yesterday: "It is a win, win, win agreement for everyone."

Of course, Britain's off-course bookmaking business will do their best to belittle such an approach; their greedy self-interest does not cater for the welfare of racing. They will seek to highlight the differences between racing and betting in Britain and Australia, while ignoring the most glaring anomaly of all: in Britain, off-course bookmakers keep the profits from betting and punters pay the £50 million levy, while in Australia racing's revenue comes from betting profits.

After years of frustration over the financial plight of British racing, itself the legacy of past Jockey Club weakness, Victoria's vision offers hope. It is now up to the BHB to seize the initiative. All its efforts must be concentrated on lobbying the political parties for the need to introduce legislation which dispenses with the tired 1960s philosophy epitomised by the levy system, and which provides for a new framework which is fair to all parties.

The battle will not be easy, but neither was Sunday racing nor the gaining of VAT concessions. However, with the bookmakers's voice within Westminster having declined perceptibly during the Nineties, and with both Conservative and Labour more sympathetic to the problems and economic value of racing, it is a battle which can, and must, be won.

DAN SMITH/ALLSPORT



An enthusiastic crowd packs the grandstand at Flemington racecourse to celebrate the annual renewal of the Melbourne Cup

Easterby has eye on rapid double

CUMBRIAN Rhapsody was cut from 50-1 to 20-1 for the Tote Credit November Handicap at Doncaster on Saturday by Ladbrokes after an impressive win in the Singing In The Saddle Handicap at Newcastle yesterday.

Steve Maloney rode a confident race on the Peter Easterby-trained four-year-old, who was repeating last year's triumph in the race. Kicking clear more than two furlongs out, Maloney brought his mount home 2½ lengths clear of Milngavie.

"She was wrong last time out at York," Easterby said. "All my horses have been generally wrong this year and they don't win unless they're 100 per cent right."

Easterby and Maloney had initiated a double with the victory of Super Park over Nigel's Lad in the Bill Patterson Maiden Stakes.

Tony Culhane and Gary Hind were suspended over separate incidents during the Pirate Claiming Handicap. Culhane was banned for six days and Hind for four.

The first incident took place after two furlongs when Culhane, on Gant Bleu, cut in towards the rails, interfering with both Hind's mount, Genesis Four, and Kentucky Flyer.

With just over a furlong left, Hind appeared to move up and nudge Culhane with his elbow. Culhane was found guilty of irresponsible riding but Hind's offence was deemed improper.

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

1.15 Inzar
1.45 Lucky Magpie
2.15 Sharp Falcon
2.45 Efizia
3.15 Hedera
3.45 INHERENT MAGIC (nap)

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.15 Kama Tashoof. 2.45 CHILLY LAD (nap). 3.15 Hedera.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

1.15 IAN HIRD CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £4,374: 6f) (5 runners)

101 (2) 14 INZAR 45 (S) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 9-3 ... T Quinn 88
102 (1) 10 SECKAR VALE 18 (S) (J Hanson) J Hanson 9-1 ... M Birch 83
103 (4) 046260 MASTER M-E-N 17 (B,F) (Manchester Evening News Ltd) J Berry 8-13 ... J Carroll 74
104 (5) 0U0048 RED HASSETT 1 (P Selby) P Blockley 8-11 ... T Wall 75
105 (3) 130320 FANTASY RACING 3 (V,BF,S) (P Bower) M Channon 8-10 ... R Painter (5) 92

BETTING: 4-5 Inzar, 3-1 Seckar Vale, 4-1 Fantasy Racing, 12-1 Red Hassett, 14-1 Master M-E-N.

1993: MEETING RUN AT REDCAR

FORM FOCUS

INZAR 4¼l 4th of 9 to Princely Hush in group III Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury (6f, soft). SECKAR VALE 35l 7th of 8 to Celtic Swing in group1 Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster (1m, good to soft). Previously beat Last Roundup 2½l in maiden at Ayr (7f, good to soft) on penultimate start. MASTER M-E-N 3l 2nd of 7 to Star Tulip in nursery at Haydock (6f, good to soft) in September. RED HASSETT well beaten behind Super Mark in maiden stakes over course and distance yesterday; previously 5½l 4th of 5 to Painted Madam in conditions race at Catterick (5f, good to firm). FANTASY RACING 2½l 2nd of 6 to Moshey Adel in conditions race at Lingfield (5f, soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: INZAR

1.45 JON CHARLTON NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,966: 7f) (20 runners)

201 (10) 006 FLYAWAY BLUES 21 (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 9-7 ... K Darley 83
202 (12) 011300 CHALDON HERRING 10 (D,G) (D Scott) T Barron 9-5 ... J Fortune 93
203 (5) 440461 GRATE BRITISH 12 (S) (Mrs M Ashby) E Weymes 9-2 ... G Hind 85
204 (6) 415 SHARED RISK 36 (BF,G) (Langsides Racing Ltd) S Norton 9-2 ... J Tate (3) 80
205 (19) 322102 DORGAMS FIRST 27 (D,G) (Mrs S Todd) Mrs M Reveley 9-1 ... R Cochrane 88
206 (1) 015020 FLAMBORO 27 (G) (Footballers' Racing Club) J Bethell 8-13 ... J Weaver 92
207 (2) 045018 PRUDENT PET 12 (CD,G) (J Tumey) C Fairhurst 8-13 ... J Fanning 94
208 (4) 0681 EURO REBEL 17 (F) (C Stevens) M H Easterby 8-13 ... M Birch 92
209 (15) 323604 QUALITAIR PRIDE 10 (Qualitair Holdings Ltd) J Bottomley 8-11 ... N Kennedy 91
210 (20) 0050 TEMPLEMORE 18 (M Andrew) N Callaghan 8-11 ... D Harrison 82
211 (14) 6068 DODDINGTON FLYER 12 (J Bower) R Hollinshead 8-11 ... L Dettori 94
212 (18) 053156 SAINT AMIGO 10 (D,S) (E Richmond) J Eyre 8-9 ... M Roberts 85
213 (7) 058010 LUCKY MAGPIE 11 (S) (M Charlton) Mrs J Ramsden 8-9 ... Dean McKeown 99
214 (3) 250065 COOL STEEL 12 (V) (C Platts) Miss S Hall 8-8 ... N Connorton 90
215 (13) 66040 COLOSSE 12 (K Power) M Jarvis 8-7 ... P Robinson 94
216 (17) 434200 BORROWBY 45 (G) (Mrs J Davenport) M W Easterby 8-6 ... L Charnock 93
217 (9) 080 RING OF VISION 11 (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 8-6 ... S Maloney 84
218 (8) 6540 LEHMANS LADY 39 (C Anderson) Mrs M Reveley 8-5 ... J Quinn 80
219 (16) 000504 BARK'N'BITE 12 (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 8-3 ... A Mackay 94
220 (11) 402500 LINDISFARNE LADY 29 (K Matthews) Mrs M Reveley 8-1 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 91

BETTING: 8-1 Euro Rebel, 10-1 Bark'n'bite, Flyaway Blues, Grate British, Shared Risk, Saint Amigo, Prudent Pet, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CHALDON HERRING beat FLAMBORO (2lb better off) 1¾l in 14-runner nursery at Catterick (7f, good) in September with SAINT AMIGO (1lb worse off) 1¼l 3rd, BORROWBY (10lb better off) 7¾l 8th and PRUDENT PET (12lb better off) 3l 10th. GRATE BRITISH beat Red Bustaan 1l in 21-runner nursery at Pontefract (1m, good to soft) with BARK'N'BITE (6lb better off) 3½l 4th, PRUDENT PET (10lb better off) 2l 6th and COLOSSE (5lb better off) 4½l 11th. EURO REBEL beat Little Father ½l in 13-runner nursery at Catterick (6f, good to firm) with SAINT AMIGO (4lb better off) ½l 5th. QUALITAIR PRIDE 5¼l 4th of 16 to Fame Again in nursery at Doncaster (7f, good to soft) with SAINT AMIGO (1lb better off) 1¾l 6th and CHALDON HERRING (2lb better off) 5l 9th. DODDINGTON STEEL 1l 3rd of 15 to Rymer's Rascal in maiden auction at Pontefract (6f, good to soft) with COOL STEEL (3lb better off) 2¼l 5th. LUCKY MAGPIE beat DURGAMS PRIDE (1lb better off) neck in 24-runner selling nursery at Haydock (6f, soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: GRATE BRITISH

2.15 BERYL BERRY HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,488: 1m 4f 93yd) (10 runners)

301 (1) 150620 WEST BUOYANT 10 (F) (S Khaled) J Dunlop 9-7 ... T Quinn 96
302 (8) 4323 KAMA TASHOOF 26 (S) (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) A Stewart 9-0 ... M Roberts 90
303 (10) 550103 SHADOW LEADER 10 (D,S) (J Blackshaw) Miss A Whitfield 8-12 ... R Painter (5) 97
304 (2) 334153 SHARP FALCON 12 (F,S) (G Mills) J Wharton 8-12 ... J Weaver 99
305 (9) 026060 DON'T ANSWER THAT 1 (P Selby) P Blockley 8-12 ... T Wall 83
306 (6) 36450 NOUFARI 5 (Ed Weetman Haulage & Storage Ltd) R Hollinshead 8-4 ... K Darley 98
307 (5) 002113 NEW INN 69 (G) (Mrs C Sharratt) E Weymes 7-11 ... Dale Gibson 94
308 (3) 050332 KALOU 10 (V) (Mrs M Butler) W Elsey 7-10 ... P Fessey (7) 96
309 (7) 150000 KANAT LEE 64 (F) (Don Enrico Incisa) Don Enrico Incisa 7-9 ... Kim Tinkler 97
310 (4) 00-0 RUN WITH JOY 12 (M Banks) Mrs J Cecil 7-7 ... D Wright (5) –

Long handicap: Run With Joy 7-1.

BETTING: 7-2 West Buoyant, 9-2 Sharp Falcon, 5-1 Kama Tashoof, 6-1 Shadow Leader, New Inn, 7-1 Kalou, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

WEST BUOYANT 1¾l 2nd of 13 to Blushing Flame in handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, good to firm) on penultimate start. KAMA TASHOOF 1½l 2nd of 15 to Tokano in maiden at Kempton (1m 4f, soft) on penultimate start. SHADOW LEADER 1¼l 3rd of 15 to Mayor Bugler in handicap at Newbury (1m 4f, heavy). SHARP FALCON 2¾l 3rd of 18 to Kissair in handicap at Newbury (1m 2f, good to soft). NEW INN 2l 3rd of 10 to Efizia in handicap at Redcar (1m 5f 135yd, good to firm). KALOU 1l 2nd of 21 to Bescaby Boy in claimer at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to soft).
Selection: SHARP FALCON

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.45 DICK GLARVEY HANDICAP
(£4,080: 1m 2f 32yd) (27 runners)

401 (20) 300303 PRENONAMOSS 7 (F,G) (Mrs W Dixon) D Arbuthnot 6-10-0 ... J Stack (5) 91
402 (6) 520360 ERZIA 12 (CD,F,S) (Mrs H Catano) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-12 ... S Copp (7) 94
403 (9) 1/23/00 ALJADEER 19 (F,G) (Miss V Foster) M W Easterby 5-9-10 ... M Wigham –
404 (4) 352125 MAM'ZELLE ANGOT 87 (S) (R Fenwick-Gibson) Miss S Hall 4-9-9 ... N Connorton 87
405 (27) 413041 BESCABY BOY 10 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Moore) J Wharton 8-9-8 ... M Birch 93
406 (25) 2-02005 ALJAWAB 7 (B) (S Khaled) J Dunlop 3-9-7 ... T Quinn 88
407 (8) 103350 DIPLOMATIST 52 (D,F,S) (M Page) W Jarvis 4-9-6 ... J Weaver 94
408 (24) 051000 KING CURAN 15 (F,G,S) (Mrs M O'Donnell) A Bailey 3-9-5 ... A Mackay 93
409 (14) 116000 JOSEPH'S WINE 10 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Houghton) D Nicholls 5-9-2 ... Alex Greaves 93
410 (2) 120343 BALLYRANTER 7 (V,F,G) (P Byrnes) H Collingridge 5-9-1 ... J Quinn 96
411 (12) 063-501 CURIE CRUSADER 215 (S) (Three Plus One Racing) M Dods 3-9-1 ... Dale Gibson 88
412 (23) 634595 COLLEGE DON 29 (J Coupland) M Bielby 3-8-13 ... L Dettori 92
413 (22) 60-0 SOMMERSBY 22 (F Nestor) A Stewart 3-8-11 ... M Roberts –
414 (21) 314050 ESSAYEFFSEE 12 (D,F,G) (Mrs S Murray) Mrs M Reveley 5-8-10 ... K Darley 89
415 (11) 00/56-10 MATHAL 27 (D,BF,S) (Four J's Syndicate) C Allen 5-8-9 ... E Guest 95
416 (19) 0-03600 WILL SOON 17 (G) (Park Racing Partnership) W Bentley 5-8-7 ... J Lowe 89
417 (18) 00-0000 STRAW THATCH 17 (BF,S) (D McKenzie) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-6 ... Dean McKeown 88
418 (3) 005002 ALABANG 43 (BF) (H Roberts) M Camacho 3-8-6 ... L Charnock 92
419 (1) 004205 SOBA UP 7 (D,S) (Mrs M Hills) T Etherington 4-8-5 ... W Woods 96
420 (13) 104052 CHILLY LAD 7 (B,D,G) (Eskaman Racing Ltd) M Ryan 3-8-4 ... D Biggs 96
421 (17) 006600 FAIR AND FANCY 4 (R Mission) D Nicholls 3-8-4 ... G Duffield 85
422 (5) 153000 LARN FORT 48 (V,D,F,G,S) (A Development Products) C Fairhurst 4-8-4 ... J Tate (3) 89
423 (26) 601065 FORT VALLY 18 (F) (Mrs M Lingwood) B Murray 4-8-4 ... Martin Dwyer (7) 96
424 (10) 046150 HAWKISH 13 (D,S) (Mrs F Morley) D Morley 5-8-4 ... J Dennis (7) 93
425 (7) 620000 CULRAIN 17 (A McDonald) M Meagher 3-8-3 ... S Maloney 93
426 (16) 500002 CELTIC CEILIDH 7 (Mrs M Williams) J Wharton 3-8-0 ... P Robinson 99
427 (15) 20/0000 SANTARAY 1 (S Taberner) T Donnelly 8-7-13 ... J Fanning 90

BETTING: 8-1 Bescaby Boy, 10-1 Prenonamoss, Chilly Lad, Mam'zelle Angot, 12-1 Straw Thatch, Aljawab, Ballyranter, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

PRENONAMOSS 6l 3rd of 18 to Misty Silks in handicap at Leicester (1m, good to soft). MAM'ZELLE ANGOT 1l 5th of 14 to Pride Of Pendle in handicap at Redcar (1m, good to firm). BESCABY BOY beat Kalou 1l in 21-runner claimer at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to soft) with JOSEPH'S WINE (14lb better off) 20l 9th and ALJADEER (1lb better off) 22l 18th. CURIE CRUSADER beat Monkey Boy 1½l in 9-runner rated maiden at Hamilton (1m 65yd, heavy). MATHAL beat SOBA UP (4lb better off) 1¾l in 11-runner handicap at Haydock (1m 2f 120yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. ALABANG 4l 2nd of 15 to King Chestnut in maiden handicap at Edinburgh (7f, good to firm). CHILLY LAD short-head 2nd of 18 to Son Of Sharp Shot in handicap at Leicester (1m 2f, good to soft) with BALLYRANTER head 3rd and SOBA UP 2l 5th. CELTIC CEILIDH running-on head 2nd of 19 to Happy Hostage in claimer at Leicester (1m, good to soft).
Selection: CHILLY LAD

3.15 EBF HARRY RUDLAND MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,749: 7f) (13 runners)

501 (3) EAU DE COLOGNE (G Reed) C Thornton 9-0 ... Dean McKeown –
502 (13) HANCOCK (H Hetherton) J Hetherton 9-0 ... W Woods –
503 (7) LORD ADRIAN (Godolphin) M Prescott 9-0 ... G Duffield –
504 (5) 33 ONEOFTHEOLDONES 11 (R Baker) S Norton 9-0 ... T Ives 92
505 (2) 65 ROY BOY 18 (B Brown) Mrs M Reveley 9-0 ... K Darley 71
506 (6) 0 SWANDALE FLYER 8 (Mrs N Bycroft) N Bycroft 9-0 ... J Fortune –
507 (10) 00 TOBAGO BOY 47 (M Saunders) M Meagher 9-0 ... J Quinn –
508 (12) 3 DON'T LISTEN 57 (J Morrison) M Johnston 8-9 ... L Dettori 90
509 (4) 2 FORGOTTEN EMPRESS 27 (R Fenwick-Gibson) Miss S Hall 8-9 ... N Connorton 95
510 (1) HEDERA (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 8-9 ... J Weaver –
511 (8) 323633 HUJJAB 11 (H Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 8-9 ... T Quinn 99
512 (9) 0500 LADY PLOY 12 (N Warriner) Miss L Siddall 8-9 ... D Harrison –
513 (11) 000 PRINCESS KAMINA 28 (V) (B Nordan) M Camacho 8-9 ... L Charnock –

BETTING: 3-1 Hedera, 4-1 Forgotten Empress, 9-2 Oneoftheoldones, 6-1 Don't Listen, 8-1 Hujjab, 10-1 Roy Boy, Lord Adrian, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

ONEOFTHEOLDONES 3l 3rd of 15 to Sheleeg in maiden at Doncaster (7f, good to soft). ROY BOY 8¾l 5th of 9 to Hardy Dancer in maiden at Catterick (6f, good to firm). DON'T LISTEN 3¾l 3rd of 14 to Pastel in maiden at Hamilton (6f, good). FORGOTTEN EMPRESS 2l 2nd of 7 to Beauchamp Jazz in maiden auction at York (1m, soft). HEDERA (foaled Jan 7). By Woodman; dam 7f juvenile winner and later placed in group company over 1m 2f/1m 4f. HUJJAB 7l 3rd of 15 to Moonshell in maiden at Doncaster (1m, good to soft).
Selection: FORGOTTEN EMPRESS

3.45 JOHN BERRY CONDITIONS STAKES
(£4,381: 5f) (13 runners)

601 (2) 060310 NIGHT MELODY 12 (CD,F,G,S) (P Savill) R Hannon 4-9-7 ... K Darley 92
602 (10) 100000 TWO MOVES IN FRONT 17 (D,F,G,S) (R Aird) J Berry 4-9-7 ... Dean McKeown 73
603 (8) 000040 PALACEGATE TOUCH 24 (V,G,S) (Palacegate Corp) J Berry 4-9-5 ... J Carroll 84
604 (12) 060241 INHERENT MAGIC 10 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Stovold) M McCormack 5-9-2 ... L Dettori 99
605 (3) 003104 TAKADOU 3 (D,F) (F Tyldesley) Miss L Siddall 3-9-1 ... D Harrison 88
606 (7) 00 LIGHT MOVEMENT 21 (Mrs P Croft) B Beasley 4-8-12 ... A Culhane –
607 (9) 005013 MU-ARRIK 42 (V,F,G) (M Burrows) G Oldroyd 6-8-12 ... D Griffiths (5) 66
608 (1) 000002 THE INSTITUTE BOY 17 (D,G) (Mrs J Addleshaw) G Oldroyd 4-8-12 ... S Webster 54
609 (4) 360203 CHAMPAGNE GRANDY 5 (D,G,S) (Grandy Girls) M Channon 4-8-11 ... R Painter (5) 83
610 (11) 530202 RANDONNEUR 19 (V,D,F,G,S) (T Scothern) E Weymes 3-8-10 ... G Hind 97
611 (5) 103340 NORDICO PRINCESS 131 (D,G,S) (M Griffiths) G Oldroyd 3-8-8 ... M McAndrew 61
612 (6) 023562 MY CHERRYWELL 34 (B) (Mrs C Owen) L Lloyd-James 4-8-7 ... R Cochrane 67
613 (13) 30 PEBS 42 (Miss S Mcintyre) C Thornton 3-8-7 ... T Williams 73

BETTING: 3-1 Inherent Magic, 7-2 Night Melody, 6-1 Palacegate Touch, Randonneur, 7-1 Two Moves In Front, 8-1 Takadou, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

NIGHT MELODY beat Lucky Parkes 2½l in 6-runner conditions race over course and distance (good) on penultimate start. TWO MOVES IN FRONT 5l 7th of 10 to Mister Joison in handicap at Newmarket (5f, good to firm). PALACEGATE TOUCH 1¼l 4th of 29 to Daring Destiny in Ayr Gold Cup Handicap (6f, good to soft) on penultimate start with NIGHT MELODY (8lb better off) 23l 27th. INHERENT MAGIC beat Lord High Admiral neck in 10-runner handicap at Doncaster (5f, good to soft) with TAKADOU (3lb worse off) 4¾l 7th. MU-ARRIK 3l 3rd of 21 to First Gold in rated stakes at Nottingham (6f, soft). CHAMPAGNE GRANDY 11l 3rd of 4 to Double Blue in conditions race at Nottingham (6f, good). RANDONNEUR 3½l 2nd of 7 to Madary in conditions race at Redcar (7f, good). MY CHERRYWELL neck 2nd of 24 to Doris Doors in claiming handicap at Salisbury (5f, good).
Selection: INHERENT MAGIC (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
B Beasley	6	15	40	M Roberts	5	17	29.4
M Prescott	10	32	31.3	L Dettori	8	34	23.5
M Stoute	17	60	28.3	R Cochrane	8	40	20.0
D Morley	11	39	28.2	G Duffield	15	78	19.2
R Hannon	8	29	27.6	G Hind	5	28	17.9
J Dunlop	6	22	27.3	N Connorton	12	74	16.2

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Ezzoud backed

EZZOUD, trained by Michael Stoute, was supported from 16-1 to 14-1 with Ladbrokes yesterday for the Breeders' Cup Classic at Churchill Downs, Kentucky, on Saturday. The French challenger, Millkom, was also a popular order, being cut from 25-1 to 14-1.

Jockeys injured as chase takes toll

PHILIP Hide and Dylan Meredith were taken to hospital for X-rays after being injured in the Ringmer Handicap Chase at Plumpton yesterday. Hide came down on General Brandy and Meredith was unseated from Miss Fern as only three of the ten starters completed the two mile five furlong course.

The race was won by the 25-1 chance, Jim Valentine, by 15 lengths from Mighty Falcon with Victory Anthem a distance away in third. In a catalogue of mishaps, two runners fell, two more unseated their riders, another was brought down and two pulled up. At the second last, Shaston unseated Richard Dunwoody, leaving Warren Marston and Jim Valentine in the lead.

David Wintle, the successful trainer, was greeting his first winner of the season. "I think the others went off too fast in this heavy ground," he said. "I told Warren to hunt him round as I thought he might be placed."

Adrian Maguire and John White completed a 36½-1 double with Freddy Owen and Ramallah. Freddy Owen got up on the run-in to beat Nazzaro in the Maggie Campbell Anniversary Novices' Chase, while Ramallah also led on the run-in in the Bet With The Tote Handicap Hurdle to deny The Whip.

Ben Pollock, the amateur rider, won the Elite Racing Club Handicap Chase on Rustic Gent but was banned for two days (November 9-10) after the stewards found him guilty of improper riding.

EXETER

THUNDERER

1.30 Snickersee. 2.00 Marine Society. 2.30 Travado. 3.00 Nordic Crown. 3.30 Meleagris. 4.00 The Caumrue. 4.30 King Lucifer.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.30 KING LUCIFER.

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.30 NORMANS RETAIL NOVICES HURDLE
(Div I: £1,960: 2m 2f) (15 runners)

1 -061 SNICKERSEE 26 (F) F Murphy 6-11-7 ... W Marston 78
2 10-P AUTO PILOT 24 (S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-11-0 ... R Greene –
3 BADAWI 90F G Yardley 4-11-0 ... D Leahy (3) –
4 30- BEE MOY DO 144 G Balding 6-11-0 ... B Clifford 64
5 CARDINAL GAYLE R Alner 4-11-0 ... S Earle –
6 42- CASTLE CHIEF 234 J Gifford 5-11-0 ... – –
7 0F- DONTDRESSFORDINNER 14F D R Tucker 4-11-0 ... B Powell –
8 0-45 ENCORE UN PEU 5 (S) M Pipe 7-11-0 ... J Lower 99
9 P03- FERNY BALL 213 A Dunn 6-11-0 ... Peter Hobbs 79
10 1- GENERAL CRACK 109 (G) P Nicholls 5-11-0 ... R Dunwoody –
11 4- MOUSE BIRD 416 D Gandolfo 4-11-0 ... M Dwyer 79
12 6-P RUSSIAN EMPIRE 46 (B) S Sherwood 4-11-0 ... D Bridgwater 88
13 0- UNIVERSAL MAGIC 209 M Bradstock 5-11-0 ... G Bradley –
14 12-0 EXCLUSIVE EDITION 10 (G) Miss H Knight 4-10-9 ... J Osborne –
15 0- ROMANY TRAVELLER 320 A Jones 6-10-9 ... S McNeill –

3-1 General Crack, 7-2 Castle Chief, 6-1 Encore Un Peu, 7-1 Snickersee, 10-1 Exclusive Edition, 12-1 Auto Pilot, 14-1 others.

2.00 MARTOCK FREETRADERS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,089: 2m 3f 110yd) (18)

1 1225 THE COUNTRY TRADER 15 (B,F,G) P Hobbs 6-12-0 ... M Moran (7) –
2 332- DEAR DO 152 N Henderson 7-11-12 ... Pat Thompson (7) 86
3 -102 KINDLE'S DELIGHT 13 (D,BF,G) Miss H Knight 6-11-9 ... J Osborne 94
4 PP-P RED AMBER 7 (F,S) S Sherwood 8-11-9 ... D Bridgwater –
5 452/ CAUTIOUS REBEL 553 G Balding 7-11-9 ... A P McCoy (5) –
6 4P3- JURASSIC CLASSIC 199 Mrs L Richards 7-11-8 ... M Richards 85
7 0U-5 ROMANY BLUES 31 A Jones 5-11-5 ... S McNeill 82
8 -043 ROOTSMAN 10 Mrs M Jones 4-11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald 84
9 66-1 MARINE SOCIETY 7 (S) N Ayliffe 6-11-5 (7ex) Mr B Pollock (7) 98
10 3-56 UPWARD SURGE 24 K Bailey 4-11-4 ... N Williamson 95
11 4084 CLASSIC IMAGE 14 (B) M Pipe 4-11-4 ... R Dunwoody 85
12 U6-U CANTORIS FRATER 35 B Forsey 7-11-4 ... D Leahy (3) 90
13 041 GALEJADE 20 (C,F) D Haydn Jones 4-11-1 ... N Mann 97
14 034- APARECIDA 123 W G Turner 8-11-0 ... S Burrough 99
15 -561 NUNS CONE 14 (F) R Dickin 6-10-13 ... – 86
16 -442 RAGTIME BOY 7 (V) C Barwell 6-10-12 ... A Maguire 98
17 4521 CAOIMSEACH 13 (B,C,G) G Ham 6-10-8 ... B Powell 94
18 050- AMILLIONMEMORIES 172 Mrs B Waring 4-10-6 ... E Byrne 97

5-1 Dear Do, 6-1 Kindle's Delight, 7-1 Marine Society, 8-1 Caoimseach, 10-1 Nuns Cone, Galejade, 12-1 The Country Trader, 14-1 others

2.30 PLYMOUTH GIN HALDON GOLD CHALLENGE CUP CHASE
(£15,475: 3m 2f) (6)

1 331- DEEP SENSATION 189 (C,F,G,S) J Gifford 9-11-6 ... R Dunwoody 99
2 F22- TRAVADO 207 (CD,F,G,S) N Henderson 8-11-6 ... J Osborne 94
3 112- CABOCHON 216 (G,S) R Frost 7-11-0 ... J Frost 80
4 136/ EVENING RAIN 379F (F,G,S) R Hodges 8-11-0 ... A Tory –
5 234- WONDER MAN 230 (F,G,S) D Nicholson 9-11-0 ... A Maguire 91
6 54-1 ABSALOM'S LADY 17 (G,S) D Elsworth 6-10-9 ... P Holley –

5-2 Travado, 11-4 Wonder Man, 3-1 Deep Sensation, 4-1 Absalom's Lady, 6-1 Cabochon, 25-1 Evening Rain

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Mann, 3 winners from 4 runners, 75.0%; M Pipe, 79 from 252, 31.3%; P Murphy, 3 from 10, 30.0%; Miss H Knight, 7 from 24, 29.2%; K Bailey, 6 from 21, 28.6%; A Dunn, 5 from 20, 25.0%.

JOCKEYS: J Osborne, 9 winners from 39 rides, 23.1%; R Dunwoody, 25 from 110, 22.7%; J Lower, 5 from 22, 22.7%; Peter Hobbs, 14 from 70, 20.0%; B Clifford, 7 from 37, 18.9%; P Holley, 8 from 44, 18.2%.

3.00 CARLSBERG-TETLEY JUVENILE NOVICES SELLING HURDLE
(£1,799: 2m 2f) (11)

1 AERIAL VIEW 108F W G M Turner 10-12 ... T Murphy (7) –
2 4 GREETLAND HALL 35 (S) Mrs A Knight 10-12 ... S Burrough –
3 INDIAN TEMPLE 42F M Saunders 10-12 ... N Williamson –
4 4PPP IN MY LEAGUE 7 L Waring 10-12 ... B Powell –
5 00 A SUITABLE GIRL 39F D Williams 10-7 ... M A Fitzgerald –
6 453 LOOSE CHANGE 26 G L Moore 10-7 ... M Richards 90
7 5023 LORCANJO 13 P Carey 10-7 ... A P McCoy (5) 97
8 064 LUCY TUFTY 11 J Pearce 10-7 ... M Stevens 99
9 MINSTER'S MADAM 99F R Simpson 10-7 ... D Gallagher –
10 4 NORDIC CROWN 19 (B,BF) M Pipe 10-7 ... R Dunwoody 94
11 2P0 PETITE BIJOU 35 R [illegible] 10-7 ... C Llewellyn 91

5-2 Lorcanjo, 11-4 Loose Change, 7-2 Lucy Tufty, 5-1 Nordic Crown, 6-1 Minster's Madam, 14-1 Indian Temple, 16-1 others.

3.30 WHITBREAD HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,056: 2m 7f 110yd) (10)

1 126- CLEVER SHEPHERD 333 (CD,F,G) P Hobbs [illegible] ... Peter Hobbs 93
2 P1F- MELEAGRIS 172 (F,G,S) D Nicholson 10-11-6 ... A Maguire 95
3 410- SUNLEY BAY 200 (G,S) P Nicholls [illegible] ... R Dunwoody 96
4 2P-1 FURRY KNOWE 13 (F,G) (G) Mrs J Pitman [illegible] ... J Osborne 93
5 U-F3 YOUR WELL 20 (G,S) J White 9-11-0 ... B Clifford 90
6 4P/ CELTIC PRINCE 627 (D,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 9-10-12 ... C Llewellyn –
7 226- COOL AND EASY 200 (G,S) J Gifford 8-10-12 ... – 98
8 -PP5 WINABUCK 26 (B,D,F,G,S) R Dickin 11-10-11 ... – 95
9 61-1 NAUGHTY NICKY 27 (CD,F,G) K Bishop 10-10-6 ... R Greene 99
10 41P- TURPIN'S GREEN 985 (G) J King 11-10-0 ... N Williamson –

7-2 Furry Knowe, 4-1 Meleagris, 5-1 Clever Shepherd, 6-1 Sunley Bay, Naughty Nicky, 8-1 Your Well, 10-1 Winabuck, 12-1 others

4.00 ST AUSTELL BREWERY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,818: 2m 2f) (12)

1 122F MUSKORA 13 (B,CD,BF,F,G) P Hobbs 5-11-10 ... G Tormey (7) 96
2 45-P HALHAM TARN 17 (S) D Elsworth 4-11-6 ... P Holley 96
3 R1-P GREEN ISLAND 13 (CD,F,G,S) A Dunn 6-11-4 ... Peter Hobbs 92
4 2-51 THE CAUMRUE 10 (G,S) G Balding 6-11-2 ... J Frost 99
5 -111 NAGOBELIA 11 (F,G,S) J Pearce 6-10-12 ... R Dunwoody 98
6 412- JUMP START 264 (CD,G,S) S Pike 7-10-10 ... M A Fitzgerald 97
7 U132 AMBASSADOR ROYALE 10 (CD,F,G) Miss A Embiricos 6-10-8 ... R Supple 97
8 1122 BEAM ME UP SCOTTY 13 (C,BF,G) B Millman 5-10-8 ... R Greene 96
9 2421 JUST ROSIE 13 (CD,F,G) A Jones 5-10-5 ... S McNeill 96
10 1831 CHICKABIDDY 19 (CD,F,G) G Edwards 6-10-0 ... A P McCoy (5) 94
11 FP-P SOUTH SANDS 7 (CD,F,G) A Forte 8-10-0 ... B Powell –
12 -024 GLENCOE BOY 13 (D,F) P Jones 11-10-0 ... Mr J Culloty (7) 85

5-2 Nagobelia, 5-1 The Caumrue, 6-1 Muskora, 7-1 Just Rosie, 8-1 Beam Me Up Scotty, 10-1 Jump Start, Ambassador Royale, 14-1 others.

4.30 NORMANS RETAIL NOVICES HURDLE
(Div II: £1,944: 2m 2f) (14)

1 00- BORIS BAGLEY 218 D Chesney 6-11-0 ... P Holley –
2 000- FIVEPERCENT 229 C Barwell 6-11-0 ... B Clifford –
3 GOLDEN EYE Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-11-0 ... A Tory –
4 I REMEMBER YOU 61F Mrs R Henderson 4-11-0 ... Mr W Henderson –
5 023- KING LUCIFER 216 D Nicholson 5-11-0 ... A Maguire 99
6 P-54 LYPHANTASTIC 12 C Mann 5-11-0 ... R Dunwoody 91
7 0- MENDIP SON 33F R Simpson 4-11-0 ... D Gallagher –
8 00-1 MY WARRIOR 22 (F) J Edwards 6-11-0 ... N Williamson –
9 035- NORSE RAIDER 178 P Murphy 4-11-0 ... E Murphy –
10 0-30 TENBIT 31 N Twiston-Davies 4-11-0 ... C Llewellyn –
11 000/ TREASURE RUN 580 J King 7-11-0 ... J R Kavanagh –
12 0-0P WISE STATEMENT 7 G Balding 5-11-0 ... R Davis 76
13 22- GARRYLOUGH 209 D Gandolfo 5-10-9 ... M Dwyer –
14 0P0/ MISTRESS ROSIE 1338 Mrs J Retter 7-10-9 ... Mr J Culloty (7) –

9-4 King Lucifer, 7-2 My Warrior, 6-1 Lyphantastic, 7-1 Garrylough, 8-1 Tenbit, 12-1 Golden Eye, 16-1 others.

Blinkered first time

NEWCASTLE: 2.45 Aljawab. EXETER: 1.30 Russian Empire 2.00 Classic Image 3.00 Greetland Hall, Nordic Crown

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Newcastle

Going: good to soft

1.55 (1m 1f 9yd) 1, OUR BAIRN (J Lowe, 33-1), 2, Bella Francesca (L Charnock, 8-1); 3, Tabard Garden (J Quinn, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Komaca (6th), 5 Vindaloo (4th), 7 Miss Madelon, 20 Monaco Gold, Salduba, Upex Le Gold Too (5th), 25 Rubistaw, 33 Bracken, Here Comes Herbie, Nicky's Feelings. 13 ran. Hd, 6l, ¾l, 1l, ½l. W Bentley at Middleham. Tote: £58.80, £4.90, £1.40, £2.40. DF £141.40. CSF: £202.05

2.25 (6f) 1, SUPER PARK (S Maloney, 8-13 fav), 2, Nigel's Lad (T Williams, 25-1), 3, Silkdasi (J Carroll, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Non Dimenticar Me, 8 Branston Kristy, 12 Shantel, 14 Shinerolla (4th), 20 Demoiselle (5th), Red Hassett, Warwick Mist, 50 Nebrangus (6th). 11 ran. ½l, 2½l, 8l, 2l, 5l. M H Easterby at Malton. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £11.00, £2.00. DF: £23.40. CSF: £21.13

2.55 (1m 4f 93yd) 1, CUMBRIAN RHAPSODY (S Maloney, 5-1); 2, Milngavie (T Williams, 14-1); 3, In The Money (L Detton, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Admirals Secret (4th), 4 Drummer Hicks (5th), 10 Phigun, 12 Eire Leath-Sceal, 14 El Nido (6th), Mad Militant, Santeray, 20 Noyan, 25 Great Max, King Of The Horse, 100 Blain. 14 ran. NR: Floating Line, Retender. 2½l, 1¾l, 1¼l, 10l, 1¼l. M H Easterby at Malton. Tote: £6.30; £2.20, £4.30, £2.30. DF: £36.80. Trio: £80.60. CSF: £71.35. Tricast: £521.94.

3.25 (1m 2f 32yd) 1, DISKETTE (L Dettori, 11-4 fav), 2, Gobernacked (R Cochrane, 7-1), 3, Cool Luke (M Tebbutt, 8-1), 4, Rock The Barney (J Tate, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Mentalasanythin (6th), Tulu, 10 Latvian, Sweet Mignonette, 11 Research, 16 Salanka, Scaraben (5th), 20 Nobby Barnes, 25 Grand Viesse, Habeta, Stephanentse, 33 Tempering, 50 Crystado, Don't Answer That. 18 ran. 2½l, nk, 2½l, 4l, 1¾l. Lord Huntingdon at West Ilsley. Tote: £3.50; £1.60, £1.50, £1.80, £6.00. DF: £12.90. Trio: £85.70. CSF: £24.83. Tricast: £142.47

3.55 (1m) 1, LEVEL EDGE (L Detton, 10-1); 2, Finjan (J Fortune, 9-2 fav); 3, Chastize (R Cochrane, 14-1), 4, The Dandy Don (J Weaver, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Duke Of Dreams, 10 Collier Row, Languedoc (5th), 12 Tolls Choice, 14 Master Fiddler, My Godson, Nellie's Gamble (6th), Super Seve, 20 Deputy Tim, Gant Bleu, Kentucky Flyer, 25 Braxton Bragg, Genesis Four, 33 Mill City, Prime Mover. 19 ran. NR: Persuasius. 1¼l, 1¼l, 3l, sh hd, 1¼l. M Johnston at Middleham. Tote: £9.30; £2.40, £1.70, £4.20, £1.80. DF: £18.10. Trio: £133.30. CSF: £55.42. Tricast: £605.81

4.25 (2m 19yd) 1, UNCLE DOUG (K Darley, 9-2), 2, Noragan (L Charnock, 7-1), 3, Alpian Blue (L Detton, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Zamhareer (4th), 11-2 The Frog Lady, 9 Glenvally, 12 Black Ice Boy, 14 Megdale, 16 Memorable, 20 Elaad, Miss Morpede (6th), Nahri (5th), 25 Barrsparc, Shawn Cuddy, 50 Cadeaux Premiere. 15 ran. 1l, 4l, ½l, 5l, 7l. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £5.50; £3.10, £3.00, £2.40. DF: £25.90. Trio: £27.10. CSF: £39.69. Tricast: £159.90

Jackpot: not won.
Placepot: £224.10. Quadpot: £44.70.

Plumpton

Going: heavy (soft in places)

1.40 (2m 1f hdle) 1, SMART IN SABLE (M Richards, 3-1: Private Handicapper's top rating), 2, Stir Fry (Peter Hobbs, 4-1); 3, Rio Trusky (J Railton, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Muhtashim (pu), 11 Bag Of Tricks (f), 25 Spring Sunrise (4th), 33 Andihsits, Hard Rock Miner (pu), 50 Wisborough Green (pu). 9 ran. NR: Kimbers, Prairie Grove. 15l, 1½l, dist. P Hedger at Chichester. Tote: £3.60; £1.30, £1.60, £1.60. DF: £6.60. CSF: £15.68

2.10 (2m 5f ch) 1, JIM VALENTINE (W Marston, 25-1), 2, Mighty Falcon (S Earle, 3-1 fav), 3, Victory Anthem (I Lawrence, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Canoscan (pu), 11-2 Miss Fern (ur), Shaston (ur), 13-2 Scotoni (f), 9 Man From Mars (bd), 12 General Brandy (f), Hurricane Blake (pu). 10 ran. NR: Be Surprised. 15l, dist. D Wintle at Westbury-on-Severn. Tote: £58.50; £11.80, £1.50, £3.20. DF: £73.50. Trio: £331.10 (part won. £51.30 carried forward to 3.45 at Newcastle today). CSF: £101.48. Tricast: £633.22

2.40 (2m 1f hdle) 1, DO BE WARE (D Bridgwater, 20-1), 2, Ivychurch (Karen Cook, 20-1), 3, Salsong (M Hourigan, 10-1), 4, Alosaili (W McFarland, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Interplay, 6 Garda's Gold, 8 Baypha (pu), Ruling Dynasty, 12 Roger's Pal, 14 Glossy (5th), Lavalight, 16 M. Senor Polydeuces (f), Sakti, 23 Austhorpe Sunset, 33 Yeoman Bound (ur), 50 Porthil Flame (6th). 17 ran. NR: Densbay. Hd, 1½l, nk, 13l. R J Fitch-Heyes at Lewes. Tote: £16.40; £2.50, £2.90, £2.80, £2.00. DF: £153.70. Trio: £555.30 (part won. £78.36 carried forward to 3.45 at Newcastle today). CSF: £348.95. Tricast: £2,[illegible]. Winner bought in for 5,400gns

3.10 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, FREDDY OWEN (A Maguire, 13-2); 2, Nazzaro (R Dunwoody, 4-1), 3, Cadolive (N Williamson, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 3-1 fav Gypsy King (5th), 7-2 Mobile Messenger (f), 10 Cheryl's Pet (4th), Joker Jack (pu), My Dear Good Man (6th), 12 Titus Gold (pu). 9 ran. NR: Broguestown Pride, Maxxum Express. ½l, dist, 5l, dist, dist. J White at Wendover. Tote: £7.80; £2.40, £2.00. £6.90. DF: £21.10. CSF: £31.12

3.40 (2m ch) 1, RUSTIC GENT (Mr B Pollock, 11-2), 2, Galagames (B Powell, 9-2), 3, Fred Splendid (R Dunwoody, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Soleil Dancer (ur), 8 Startap (f), 10 Cotapaxi (5th), Lowlands (4th). 7 ran. NR: Fighting Days, Young Alfie. 8l, 2½l, 12l, 3l. Mrs L Jewell at Maidstone. Tote: £6.50; £1.80, £3.10. DF: £12.60. Trio: £17.00. CSF: £27.19. Tricast: £124.55.

4.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, RAMALLAH (A Maguire, 4-1 fav), 2, The Whip (Peter Hobbs, 10-1), 3, Noble Insight (T Jenks, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Tax The Devil, 15-2 Cobb Gate (4th), Move A Minute (ur), 8 Rowlandsons Gold (5th), 12 Cavo Greco, Orujo (6th), Sir Norman Holt, 14 Cappuccino Girl (pu), Somerset Dancer (pu), 66 Damcada, Miss Parkes (pu). 14 ran. 1l, 25l, 12l, 1½l. J White at Wendover. Tote: £3.10; £2.50, £2.50, £4.00. DF: £20.00. Trio: £215.20. CSF: £40.67. Tricast: £554.25.

Placepot: £2,309.60. Quadpot: not won (pool of £146.00 carried forward to Newcastle today).

□ Merry Gale, Ireland's leading Cheltenham Gold Cup hope, was beaten more than 20 lengths on his seasonal debut at Galway yesterday.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SHARP FALCON
(2.15 Newcastle)
Next best: Efizia
(2.45 Newcastle)

Errors keep Cincinnati from famous upset over Super Bowl champions

Bengals rise to challenge as Cowboys leave it late

By Robert Kirley

THE Cincinnati Bengals were the worst team in the National Football League last season and they were giving every indication of continuing their haplessness again this year — until Sunday. The lowly Bengals, who have yet to win a game, gave the mighty Dallas Cowboys a good scare before the Super Bowl champions escaped with a 23-20 victory.

Early last week, Barry Switzer, the first-year Dallas coach, likened the prospect of playing Cincinnati to playing lowly Iowa State during his coaching days with the powerful University of Oklahoma. The Bengals displayed the offending newspaper cuttings in their dressing-room and found the inspiration for their best game of the season.

Chris Boniol kicked field goals of 37, 43 and 38 yards in the second half to save Dallas against the fired-up but error-prone Bengals. Cincinnati took a 14-0 lead in the first half and were not overtaken until five minutes remained, when Boniol nailed his final kick.

The Bengals then failed to get a first down and punted with just over three minutes to play. The Cowboys earned a first down and killed the remaining time to improve their record to seven wins and one defeat, equal best with the San Diego Chargers, as the league reached the halfway point of its 75th campaign.

Dallas made heavy weather of the game despite facing a quarterback who was starting for the first time as a professional. Jeff Blake, a third-stringer who was playing for the injured David Klingler and Don Hollas, hit Darnay Scott with touchdown throws of 67 and 55 yards in the first 16 minutes to give the Bengals a stunning lead.

Cincinnati then had a chance to increase their advantage in the second quarter when the Dallas receiver, Alvin Harper, fumbled at his own 35-yard line. On the next play, however, Derrick Fenner, the Cincinnati running back, fumbled and the Cowboys scored four plays later.

Troy Aikman threw a 27-yard touchdown pass to Harper to make it 14-7 and, after the Bengals added a field goal, Aikman completed a ten-yard scoring pass to Michael Irvin to cut the deficit to 17-14 at the interval.

Boniol's first field goal after half-time made the score 17-17, but Doug Pelfrey put the Bengals back in front with a 33-yard kick with just over two minutes to play in the third quarter. Boniol tied it again with six seconds remaining in the third quarter after Kevin Williams had returned a kick-off 55 yards.

Aikman, who had been concussed against Arizona in the Cowboys' previous game, completed 20 of 33 passes for 272 yards and one interception. Emmitt Smith, of Dallas, rushed 25 times for 98 yards. Blake was successful on 12 of 28 passes for 222 yards and no interceptions for the Bengals' best passing performance this season. Unfortunately for Cincinnati, however, Blake completed only three of 11 passes for 42 yards in the second half. Scott caught four passes for 155 yards.

Andre Reed and Pete Metzelaars each caught two touchdown passes from Jim Kelly as the Buffalo Bills beat the Kansas City Chiefs 44-10 in a rematch of the American Football Conference final played last January. Both teams have experienced erratic spells this season.

Kelly completed 14 of 22 passes for 184 yards, and Joe Montana, of Kansas City, 12 of 21 for 124 yards and one interception. Montana also fumbled twice as the Chiefs committed five turnovers that led to 20 points for Buffalo.

In San Diego, Natrone Means scored a touchdown and gained 104 yards for his fourth successive 100-yard rushing game in a 35-15 victory over the Seattle Seahawks. The Chargers pulled two games clear of Kansas City in their division.

Anthony Parker, a cornerback, scored a touchdown for the third successive game and Fuad Reveiz kicked five field goals to lead the Minnesota Vikings to a 36-13 away win against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Parker picked off a pass from Craig Erickson and raced 41 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter to give the Vikings a 10-0 lead.

TONY RANZE



Allen, the Minnesota running back, en route to a touchdown as the Vikings beat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 36-13

NFL DETAILS

RESULTS: Week nine: Dallas 23 Cincinnati 20, Detroit 28 NY Giants 25 (OT); Buffalo 44 Kansas City 10, Philadelphia 31 Washington 29; Miami 23 New England 3, Denver 26 Cleveland 14, LA Raiders 17 Houston 14, Minnesota 36 Tampa Bay 13, Indianapolis 28 New York Jets 25, San Diego 35 Seattle 15; Arizona 20 Pittsburgh 17 (OT)

American Football Conference

	W	L	PF	PA
East division				
Miami	6	2	203	149
Buffalo	5	3	178	153
NY Jets	4	4	141	150
Indianapolis	4	5	195	211
New England	3	5	178	206
Central division				
Cleveland	6	2	180	105
Pittsburgh	5	3	141	137
Houston	1	7	107	172
Cincinnati	0	8	121	203
West division				
San Diego	7	1	220	141
Kansas City	5	3	169	175
LA Raiders	4	4	180	192
Denver	3	5	182	206
Seattle	3	5	168	159

Byes: Atlanta, LA Rams, New Orleans, San Francisco

National Football Conference

	W	L	PF	PA
East division				
Dallas	7	1	210	110
Philadelphia	6	2	192	141
NY Giants	3	5	152	172
Arizona	3	5	109	172
Washington	2	7	198	242
Central division				
Minnesota	6	2	183	118
Chicago*	4	3	129	128
Detroit	4	4	155	170
Green Bay*	3	4	117	97
Tampa Bay	2	6	109	195
West division				
San Francisco	6	2	237	150
Atlanta	4	4	158	184
LA Rams	3	5	135	156
New Orleans	3	5	156	208

* Does not include game played last night.

FIXTURES: Week ten: Sunday: Chicago at Tampa Bay; Detroit v Green Bay (Milwaukee). Indianapolis at Miami; New England at Cleveland. New Orleans at Minnesota, Pittsburgh at Houston; San Diego at Atlanta; San Francisco at Washington; Arizona at Philadelphia; Buffalo at NY Jets, Cincinnati at Seattle, Denver at LA Rams, LA Raiders at Kansas City. Monday: NY Giants at Dallas

SPORT IN BRIEF

Reynolds loses case in Supreme Court

HARRY "Butch" Reynolds, the world 400 metres record-holder, yesterday lost his case in the United States Supreme Court arising from his claim that he had been wrongly banned for two years for taking anabolic steroids. An Ohio court had awarded Reynolds $27 million in punitive and compensatory damages after the athlete claimed he had been defamed and the suspension had cost him income from business contracts.

Reynolds, who has always denied taking drugs, will now have to give up his fight against the International Amateur Athletic Federation, whose president, Primo Nebiolo, said that yesterday's ruling, that the Ohio court had no jurisdiction, "sets an important precedent for the authority of international sports bodies with regard to the involvement of civil courts in the Olympic movement".

Johnston ruled out

BOWLS: Margaret Johnston, the women's world outdoor and Commonwealth Games singles champion, has turned down the chance to represent Ireland at the Atlantic Rim championships in South Africa for financial reasons. "Not only were the players being asked to contribute £300 each towards the cost of playing in the Atlantic Rim outdoor championships next April, but I would have had to lose money by taking time off work," Johnston, a part-time auxiliary nurse, said. She estimates that playing bowls leaves her between £2,000 and £3,000 out of pocket over 12 months. England's team for the event includes only Norma Shaw of the five players who won the team title in Florida two years ago.

Volkov fails in Paris

TENNIS: Jason Stoltenberg, of Australia, saved two match points in a dramatic 18-point tie-break and upset Aleksandr Volkov, the Russian Davis Cup player, to reach the second-round of the Indoor Paris Open yesterday. Stoltenberg, 24, who now plays Andre Agassi, the United States Open champion who is the No 8 seed, clinched a 5-7, 6-4, 7-6 victory in two and a half hours. By contrast Magnus Larsson, of Sweden, needed just 79 minutes to dispose of Richey Reneberg, of the US, 7-5, 6-4.

Mailer strikes

BADMINTON: Jim Mailer gave Scotland an early lead in the international match against England at Arbroath yesterday when he beat Steve Isaac 15-10, 17-15 in the opening men's singles. However, injury cost Scotland the services of Kenny Middlemiss, and England went 2-1 up in the best seven encounters, taking the mixed doubles through John Quinn and Joanne Davies and the men's doubles through Ian Pearson and James Anderson.

Strauss ready to lead

RUGBY UNION: Tiaan Strauss makes his first appearance of the tour when he leads the unbeaten South Africans against Neath tomorrow (David Hands writes). Strauss, the experienced Western Province flanker, has recovered from bruised ribs. Tinus Linee and Balie Swart are still injured.

SOUTH AFRICANS (v Neath): G Johnson; C Badenhorst, P Muller, B Venter, J Olivier; J Stransky, K Putt; P du Randt, J Dalton, I Hattingh, C Strauss, J Wiese, H Hattingh, E van der Bergh, G Teichmann. Replacements: J van der Westhuizen, H le Roux, A Joubert, U Schmidt, T Laubscher, R Straeuli.

Bears entertain Towers

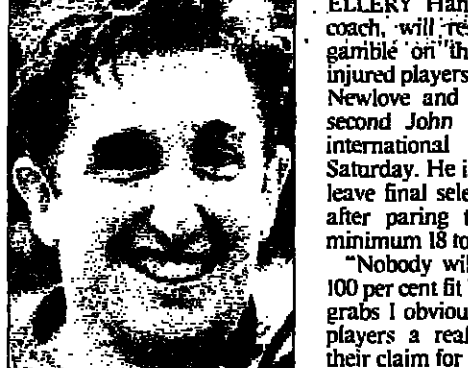
BASKETBALL: Worthing Bears, the National Cup holders, entertain Towers when they begin their defence in the fourth round on December 10. The Bears beat the Towers by 14 points when they met in the 7-Up Trophy last week.

FOURTH-ROUND DRAW: December 10: Chester Jets v Manchester Giants; Coventry Crusaders v Leicester City Riders; Sunderland Scorpions v Doncaster Panthers; Slough or Crystal Palace v Thames Valley Tigers, Hemel Hempstead Royals v The Leopards, Worthing Bears v London Towers. December 11: Ware Rebels v Birmingham Bullets; Sheffield Sharks v Derby Bucks.

Wendlinger setback

MOTOR SPORT: Karl Wendlinger, of Austria, has postponed his Formula One motor racing comeback on medical advice. Wendlinger, 25, who drives for the Swiss-based team, Sauber, sustained head injuries in a training crash in May. He had hoped to return for the last two races, in Japan and Australia. Mika Salo, of Finland, however, will make his grand prix debut with the Lotus-Mugen-Honda team in the Japanese Grand Prix at Suzuka on Sunday.

Hanley refuses to take risks with injured trio



Jonathan Davies: hurt shoulder

By Christopher Irvine

ELLERY Hanley, the Great Britain coach, will resist any temptation to gamble on the fitness of the three injured players, Jonathan Davies, Paul Newlove and Daryl Powell, for the second John Smith's rugby league international against Australia on Saturday. He is prepared, however, to leave final selection as late as Friday after paring the squad down to a minimum 18 tomorrow.

"Nobody will play unless they are 100 per cent fit but with so much up for grabs I obviously want to give all the players a real opportunity to stake their claim for Old Trafford," he said.

Medical examinations of the trio revealed that although improving, their respective injuries are not yet sufficiently healed. Davies is continuing to receive treatment to a shoulder injury sustained in the first international. He hopes to be fit, but Graham Steadman, of Castleford, has been drafted into the squad for cover at full-back.

Powell has also not played since suffering a deep-seated dead-leg in the match at Wembley. Garry Schofield is another on standby and pressed his claim for the stand-off half role with a display of excellence alongside Hanley in the defeat of Wakefield by Leeds on Sunday.

Newlove's knee-ligament damage, which forced his withdrawal a fortnight ago, is on the mend, but because he has not played for four weeks, his inclusion could be seen as a risk. Should he recover in time, however, leaving out one of the world's best centres would be equally hazardous.

At St Helens tonight, Mal Meninga will pay his farewell to the club he served with distinction a decade ago. The Australia captain is among the substitutes for the last game before the international. St Helens are without four players in the Britain squad.

Up to half the 17 named by Australia could figure at Old Trafford. Outside the international arena, the Kangaroos have won their past 47 matches since a 11-10 defeat by Widnes in 1978. Eric Hughes was a member of that winning side. As coach of St Helens, he requires an even greater upset.

The Brisbane pair of Kevin Walters and Michael Hancock are to join London Broncos after the tour for a three-month stint. Workington Town, meanwhile, are to take Kevin Ellis and Rowland Phillips, Warrington's Wales half back and forward, on loan.

AUSTRALIA XIII (v St Helens, tonight): T Brasher (Balmain), W Sailor (Brisbane), T Hill (Manly), A Ettingshausen (Cronulla), R Wishart (Illawarra); G Florimo (Norths), K Walters (Brisbane), P Sironen (Balmain), J Serdaris (Wests), P Harragon (Newcastle), S Menzies (Manly), D Fairleigh (Norths), J Smith (Canterbury). Substitutes: D Pay (Canterbury), M Meninga (Canberra), D Furner (Canberra), R Stuart (Canberra).

□ Iestyn Harris, 18, the highly rated Warrington utility player, is on course to face Australia three times in a little over two weeks after being named in the Great Britain Under-21 squad for the John Smith's tour match against the Kangaroos at Gateshead on November 15. Harris was one of Wales's leaders when he deputised for the injured captain, Jonathan Davies, in the 46-4 defeat by the touring side in Cardiff. And he will probably line up for Warrington against the Australians on Wednesday week.

Another interesting inclusion in the squad is Nathan McAvoy, the 17-year-old Salford centre.

□ Dewsbury and Swinton, the second division rivals, were yesterday fined £1,500 each after being found guilty of a brawl in a match last Tuesday. The clubs must pay £1,000 immediately, with the remainder suspended until the end of the season.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

FRIMLEY: Southern Women's Cross Country League (5km): 1. M Steadman (Bracknell) 19min 47sec, 2. S Dilnot (Southampton City) 19 52, 3. A Whitcombe (Parkside Harrow) 19 57. Teams: 1. Shaftesbury Barnet 39pts; 2. Hounslow 79. 3. Parkside Harrow 125.

WELWYN GARDEN CITY: Metropolitan Cross Country League (5miles) 1. J Gentry (Newham and Essex Beagles) 27min 42sec, 2. A Kotkai (Ilford) 28 14; 3. C Beecham (Highgate) 28 45. Teams: 1. Woodford Green 2286pts. 2. Verlea 2180. 3. London Irish 2157. 4. Hillingdon 1971; 5. North London 1644; 6. Ilford 1637. Veteran: T Osborne (Verlea) 29.12

JARROW: Durham Pine North Eastern Harrier Cross Country League (6 miles) 1. C Walker (Gateshead) 30min 7 sec, 2. S Bell (Chester-le-Street) 30 45. 3. K Chapman (Durham University) 31 07. Teams: 1. Tynedale 56pts. 2. Gosforth 278. 3. Sunderland 322. Women (3miles) 1. L Harding (Houghton) 17 39, 2. S Morley (Jarrow and Hebburn) 18 07, 3. K Shaw (Shildon) 18 25. Teams: 1. Houghton 27, 2. Tynedale 57, 3. Jarrow and Hebburn 59

CHICAGO: Chicago Marathon: Men: 1. L A Dos Santos (Br) 2hr 11min 16sec, 2. E Eyestone (US) 2:11 51, 3. P Mutun (Ken) 2 12 65, 4. O Casilla (Mex) 2:13 09, 5. D Janicki (US) 2:13 21. Women: K Johnston (US) 2 31 34, 2, G Karlshoj (Den) 2 31 57

BOWLS

WELSH INDOOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Taff-Ely bt Newport 109-108 (18 points to 4). Llanelli beat Ogwr 162-194 (19-3). Cardiff bt Torfaen 151-91 (20-2). Swansea bt Pembrokeshire 154-94 (18-4); Merthyr Tydfil bt Vale of Glamorgan 152-83 (22-0) Port Talbot bt Erlswood 107-104 (17-5). Radnorshire bt Bro Ddyfi 133 107 (19-3) Flint bt Severn Valley 130-107 (18-4)

GUERNSEY: Mallard International Masters: Semi-finals: J Greenslade (Wales) bt D Le Marquand (Jersey) 21-12. A Welch (Guernsey) bt M Nicolle (Guernsey) 21-20. Final: Greenslade bt Welch 21-8

ATHERLEY: Women's indoor test match: England bt Jersey 24-2. Scores (England names first): Triples: K Mann, B Alderson and I Molyneux bt K Horman, S Syvret and J Lowery 21-20, L Jarman, J Thomas and N Shaw bt J Jones, M Le Marquand and H Creechan 20-14. Jarman, Thomas and Shaw bt Horman, Syvret and Lowery 20-17: Martin, Alderson and Molyneux bt Jones, Le Marquand and Creechan 19-15. Pairs: Thomas and Alderson bt Syvret and Creechan 25-11. Martin and Molyneux lost to Jones and Le Marquand 19-24. Jarman and Shaw bt Horman and Lowery 19-13. Singles: Alderson bt Creechan 21-16, Jarman bt Jones 21-9; Martin bt Horman 21-19, Molyneux bt Syvret 21-17. Shaw bt Lowery 21-8. Thomas bt Le Marquand 21-7

LLANDRINDOD WELLS: World Indoor Singles Championship: Welsh play-off: Quarter-finals: R Weale (Radnorshire) bt J R Davies (Port Talbot) 6-7, 7-4, 7-2; D Kingdon (Llanelli) bt N Jones (Ogwr) 7-6, 7-2, D Harding (Cardiff) bt A Atwood (Cardiff) 7-0, 7-2. D Evans (Erlswood) bt D Wilkins (Port Talbot) 7-6, 7-6. Semi-finals: Weale bt Kingdon 7-5, 6-7, 7-2, Harding bt Evans 7-0, 7-3. Final: Weale bt Harding 7-3, 7-1

CYCLING

GRENOBLE: Six-day race (after fourth day). 1. S Martinello and M Cipollini (It) 206pts, 2. G Duclos-Lassalle (Fr) and P Bincoletto (It) 193; 3. J-C Colotti (Fr) and D Woods (Aus) 154. 4. D Ruegg and P Vetsch (Switz) 160; 5. F Moreau and C Capelle (Fr) 147

FOOTBALL

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Flamengo 0 Bahia 1, Santos 1 Parana 0, Portuguesa 1 Internacional 0, Gremio 3 Fluminense 1, Botafogo 2 Sport 5. Corinthians 2 Paysandu 1. Guarani 2 Vasco 0

FA VASE: First round: Corrected result: Westbury 0 Devizes 0

HOCKEY

SENIOR WOMEN'S CLUBS: Bracknell 1 Loughborough Students 0. Chelmsford 1 Trojans 0. Don Valley 2 Doncaster 2. Dulwich 2 Wimbledon 3: Exmouth 1 Clifton 1. Old Loughtonians 2 Canterbury 3. Olton WW 4 Cheltenham 1; Reading 0 Woking 2. Southgate 0 Redbridge 1

WELSH WOMEN'S CUP: First round: BSC 3 Bangor 0, Buckley 4 Llandudno 1: Cardiff Athletic 4 Wrexham 0. Carmarthen 9 Monsanto 1 Carnarton 0 Ardudwy 1. Chepstow 0 Bow Street 0 (3-0 pens). Haverfordwest 2 Cardiff IHE 1 Llanelli 1 Llan and Llan 0. Newport 5 Risca 0, Newtown 2 Cardiff Ladies 0. Rhyl 0 Pwllheli 2: Ruthin 0 Penarth 6. St Clears 0 Llanliar 3. St Fagans 0 Pontypridd 4: Swansea 7 Cwmtawe 0. Whitchurch 0 Colwyn Bay 1 St Albans 0. Slough 3

Sunderland Bedans 5, York 1. Woking 0, Ealing 0.

MEN: Representative: England 6 Ladykillers XI 0: Netherlands 7 Klein Zwitserland 0

LANCASHIRE CENTRAL WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Lancaster 1 Nelson 1, Great Harwood 3 Darwin and Blackburn 2. Garstang 1 Chorley 1, Leyland Motors 1 Burnley 0

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Manchester Giants 78 Leicester City Riders 67.

	P	W	L	For	Ag	Pts
Sheffield	8	7	1	571	493	14
Thames Valley	9	7	2	807	671	14
Manchester	7	6	1	562	485	12
London Towers	9	5	4	675	642	10
Doncaster	5	4	1	361	321	8
Leopards	5	3	2	394	392	6
Worthing	5	3	2	462	419	6
Birmingham	6	2	4	414	421	4
Derby	7	2	5	576	631	4
Hemel	7	2	5	476	556	4
Chester	8	1	7	620	696	2
Leicester	6	1	5	399	469	2
Sunderland	6	1	5	442	563	2

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Women: First division: Cardiff Flyers 60 Birmingham Quality Cats 43.

EBA National Cup: Third round: Slough 71 Sheffield 56. Greenwich 58 Stevenage 64. Liverpool 66 Cardiff 72. Oxford 62 Mid Sussex 73. Nottingham 73 Westminster 53. Worcester 96 Swindon 81. Stockton 96 Northampton 86

NBL MEN'S UNDER-23 LEAGUE: Liverpool 79 Doncaster 57 Manchester 93 Leicester 68 Sunderland 82 Derby 46

GOLF

SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1 N Price (Zim) 21 51pts 2. G Norman (Aus) 20 58. 3. B Langer (Ger) 16 13. 4. N Faldo (GB) 15 67. 5. J M Olazabal (Sp) 15.22. 6. F Couples (US) 13 88. 7. E Els (SA) 13 59. 8. C Montgomerie (GB) 12.78. 9. C Pavin (US) 10.87. 10 D Frost (SA) 10 18

SAN FRANCISCO: Tour championship: (US unless stated) 274: M McCumber 66, 71, 69, 68 (won on 1st extra hole). F Zoeller 71, 69, 66, 68 275: B Bryant 72, 68, 67, 68 276: D Frost (SA) 66, 69, 75, 66, B Glasson 66, 68, 71, 71 277: J Haas 69, 71, 71, 66 278: J Maggert 72, 66, 70, 70 279: L Roberts 71, 70 68, 70, S Lowery 66, 69, 72, 72 280: B Lietzke 69, 71, 71, 69, C Pavin 69, 69, 70 72; J Huston 74, 68, 66, 72 281: B Crenshaw 72, 70, 69, 70. G Norman (Aus) 69, 75, 66, 71 282: R Estes 71, 70, 73, 68; R Fehr 67 69, 77, 69 283: M Springer 72, 67, 73 71; P Mickelson 68, 71, 70, 74. E Els (SA) 68, 67, 72, 76

PGA TOUR: Leading money-winners (US unless stated) 1. N Price (Zim) $1,499,927, 2. G Norman (Aus) 1,330,307; 3. M McCumber 1,208,209; 4. T Lehman 1,031,144, 5. F Zoeller 1,016,804; 6. L Roberts 1,015,671; 7. J M Olazábal (Sp) 969,900. 8 C Pavin 906,305. 9. J Maggert 814 475 10 H Irwin 814 436. 11. S Hoch 804,559. 12. S Lowery 794 048 13. M Springer 770,717 14. R Estes 765,360. 15. P Mickelson 748,316 16. J Huston 731,499. 17. W Glasson 689,110. 18. B Bryant 687,803. 19. E Els (SA) 684,440 20. D Frost (SA) 671,683

ICE HOCKEY

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Quarter-final: Cardiff 15 Durham 2

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell 3 Nottingham 11. Fife 7 Sheffield Steelers 4. Edinburgh 2 Milton Keynes 6 Humberside 5 Basingstoke 10. Whitley 4 Peterborough 4. First division: Blackburn 3 Telford 5: Chelmsford 1 Slough 19. Guildford 10 Dumfries 6. Lee Valley 0 Swindon & Paisley 8 Teesside 6. Romford 4 Trafford 14, Solihull 12 Medway Bears 6

SNOOKER

EDINBURGH: Benson and Hedges championship (England unless stated): First round: N Foulds bt P Clarke 5-1; S Pamell bt P Kenny 5-3, M Davis bt W Brown 5-2; D McDonnell bt J O'Bove (Ire) walkover, D Dale (Wales) bt J Cundy 5-3, R McDonald (Scot) bt S James 5-4, M J Williams (Wales) bt P McPhillips (Scot) 5-4; S Judd bt S Waldron 5-2

TENNIS

PARIS: Indoor Open: First round: M Larsson (Swe) bt R Reneberg (US) 7-5, 6-4; L Roux (Fr) bt K Braasch (Ger) 6-2, 7-5, J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt A Volkov (Russ) 5-7, 6-4, 7-6, A Boetsch (Fr) bt J Yzaga (Peru) 4-6, 6-3, 6-1; J Eltingh (Holl) bt T Guardiola (Fr) 7-6, 3-6, 6-1

ATP TOUR RANKINGS: 1, P Sampras (US) 4,832 pts. 2. G Ivanisevic (Croatia) 3,363; 3. B Becker (Ger) 2,980, 4. M Stich (Ger) 2,883. 5. S Bruguera (Sp) 2,774. 6. S Edberg (Swe) 2,660. British: 74, J Bates 591. 101, M Petchey 476

VOLLEYBALL

SÃO PAULO, Brazil: Women's world championship: Semi-finals: Brazil 3 Russia 2 (15-7, 14-16, 12-15, 15-8, 15-10); Cuba 3 S Korea 0 (15-4, 15-9, 15-5).

GATESHEAD: European men's championship: Qualifier: England 1 Portugal 3

YACHTING

BOC CHALLENGE: Round-the-world: First leg (Charleston to Cape Town). Class One: 1. Ecureuil Poitou Charentes II (I Autissier, Fr) 35 days 08hrs 52 mins; 2, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, US) 40:16:08; 3, Sceta Calberson (C Auguin, Fr) 42.04.58; 4, Vendee Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 42.13 54. 5. Benvio (J Provoyeur, SA) 42 22 04. Class Two: 1, True Blue (D Adams, Aus) 42:09:50; 2, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 43 06:22.

Other positions (at 0800 GMT yesterday, with miles to Cape Town): Class One: 6, Coyote (D Scully, US) 30 miles; 7, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, US) 1140.

Class Two: 3, Jimroda II (C Vaughan, GB) 819. 4, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aus) 967; 5, Sky Catcher (N Rowe, GB) 1448, 6, Shuten-Dohji II (M Saito, Japan) 2,201, 7, Cornwall (R Davie, GB), 2,276, 8, Henry Hornblower (H Mitchell, GB) 2,724, 9, Protect Our Seattle (N Petersen, SA) 2,765, 10, Town of Cervia (S Bianchetti, It) 3,163. 11. Cardiac 88 (F Romack, US) 3,742.

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

PIPKRAKE

(b) One of the ice needles in needle-ice or needle-ice itself, from Swedish dialect *pip* pipe + *krake* dialect biform of *klake* (hardness and roughness of) frozen ground, *cf.* Norwegian *klake*. Danish *klage*. Icelandic *klaki*. "Needle ice, also known as pipkrake, is an accumulation of slender, bristle-like ice crystals practically at, or immediately beneath, the surface of the ground."

REQUETE

(b) A member of a Carlist militia that took the Nationalist side during the Spanish Civil War of 1936-39, spelled *requeté* with an accent on the second *e*. "The first, longer and better of the two stories describes how a Carlist requeté in North Spain deserted his side to secure the reprieve of his father."

SALAK

(a) A thorny palm tree belonging to the genus *Salacca*, native to tropical south-east Asia, especially *Salacca edulis*, or its pear-shaped edible fruit, from the Malaysian. "The Salak affords a fruit about the size of a pullet's egg, which consists of a hard stone, enveloped by a firm white pulp, which is covered by thin husks."

PALIOTTO

(c) The frontal painting on an altar-piece, also attributively, from the Italian. "'Judas receiving Payment', the 'Baptism of Christ' from the thirteenth-century St John paliotto in the Siena Gallery, the head of Pietro Lorenzetti's St Catherine of Alexandria."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Bh6+! wins, as if 1 ... Kxh6 2 Nf7+, 1 ... Kf6 2 Nxd7+ Nxd7 3 Bxd7 Qxd7 4 Bg5+ winning a piece or, finally, 1 ... Kg8 2 Nxd7 Nxd7 3 Qe6 mate.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Uefa Cup

Second round, second leg

Aston Villa (0) v Trabzonspor (1) (7.45)
Athletic Bilbao (2) v Newcastle (3) (6 15)

FA Carling Premiership

Everton v West Ham
Ipswich v Leeds (7.45)

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Bolton v Swindon
Bristol City v Wolverhampton (7.45)
Burnley v Watford
Luton v Grimsby (7.45)
Middlesbrough v Oldham (7.45)
Southend v Notts County (7.45)
Sunderland v Charlton (7.45)
Tranmere v Barnsley

Second division

Birmingham v Crewe (7.45)
Cambridge Utd v Bristol Rovers (7.45)
Huddersfield v Wrexham
Hull v York
Leyton Orient v Cardiff (7.45)
Oxford Utd v Blackpool (7.45)
Plymouth v Peterborough (7.45)
Swansea v Rotherham
Wycombe v Shrewsbury (7.45)

Auto Windscreens Shield

Southern section, group six

Northampton v Barnet

Bob Lord Trophy, second round

Altrincham v Northwich (7.45)
Macclesfield v Runcorn (7.45)
Stafford v Bromsgrove (7.45)
Stalybridge v Southport (7.45)
Woking v Farnborough (7.45)
Yeovil v Dagenham and R (7.45)

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE, Premier division: Burton v Corby. Gresley v Hednesford. Midland division: Badworth v Buckingham Town. Dr Martens Cup: First round, first leg. Gravesend and Northfleet v Hastings. Second leg: Baldock v Burnham; Leek v RC Warwick.

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Worthing v Berkhamsted. Third division: Epsom and Ewell v Southall. Carlsberg Cup: Second round. Abingdon Town v St Albans. Aldershot Town v Walton and Hersham. Grays v Saffron Walden, Hungerford v Dulwich, Leyton v Hendon. Marlow v Newbury. Slough v Collier Row, Staines v Barking). Tooting and Mitcham v Hitchin. Wembley v Bognor Regis: Witham v Enfield.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE Challenge Cup: First-round replay: Lancaster v Gretna. Second round: Barrow v Atherton LR Buxton v Droylsden. Chorley v Guiseley. Colwyn Bay v Congleton. Farsley v Gainsborough. Knowsley v Morecambe. Warrington v Caernarfon; Witton v Winsford

FA VASE: First-round replays: Hatfield Main v Grove Utd; West Midlands Police v Holwell Sports: Witham Town v Stotfold. Brantham v Wroxham, Camberley v Littlehampton, Devizes v Westbury

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE. Premier division: Romford v Eton Manor.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Diss v Harwich and Parkeston. Felixstowe v Tiptree; Lowestoft v Stowmarket

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Biggleswade v Royston Harpenden v Potters Bar, Hoddesdon v Letchworth Garden City

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Cup: Rossington Main v Yorkshire Amateurs. President's Cup: First round: Liversedge v Pickering

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Porthmadog: Holywell v Flint, Llansantffraid v Conwy. Maesteg Park v Cwmbran, Mold v Rhyl, Newtown v Connah's Quay

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: League Cup: Bournemouth v Yeovil. First division: Crystal Palace v Tottenham (2.00), West Ham v Portsmouth (7.00). Second division: Torquay v Exeter.

FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Doncaster Rovers v Scunthorpe Utd. Preston North End v Rotherham Utd

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Fuji Films Trophy: Third round: Cannock v Chesterfield (at Chase Town FC (7.30). Inter County Challenge (under-19): Devon v Hampshire (at Elmore 7.0)

RUGBY UNION

Tour match

Ireland Development XV v USA (2.30) (at Galway)

Club matches

Northampton v Cambridge University
Plymouth v Devon
Pyle v Treorchy (7.00)
Weston-super-Mare v RAF

RUGBY LEAGUE

Tour match

St Helens v Australians

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER. Edinburgh: Benson and Hedges Championship (10.00, 12.30, 15.00 and 19.30)

POOLS FORECAST

Coupon No, fixture, forecast

Saturday, November 5 unless stated

FA PREMIERSHIP

1 Blackburn v Tottenham 1
2 C Palace v Ipswich 1
3 Leeds v Wimbledon 1
4 Liverpool v Nott'm F 1
5 Man City v South'pton 1
6 Newcastle v QPR 1
7 West Ham v Leicester 1

Not on coupons: Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday (Sunday). Aston Villa v Manchester United (Sunday); Chelsea v Coventry (Sunday). Norwich v Everton (Monday)

FIRST DIVISION

8 Barnsley v Stoke X
9 Charlton v Bolton 2
10 Grimsby v Middlesbro 2
11 Notts Co v Sunderl'd 2
12 Port Vale v Southend 2
13 Reading v Burnley X
14 Sheff Utd v Bristol C 1
15 Swindon v Millwall X
16 Wolves v Luton 1

Not on coupons: Oldham v Tranmere (Sunday); Portsmouth v Derby (Sunday): Watford v West Brom

SECOND DIVISION

17 Blackpool v Leyton O 1
18 Bournm'th v Cambr'ge 1
19 Brentford v Hull 2
20 Bristol R v Bradford X
21 Cardiff v Brighton 1
22 Crewe v Swansea X
23 Peterboro v Chester 1
24 Rotherham v Plym'th 1
25 Stockport v Oxford 2
26 Wrexham v Wycombe 1
27 York v Hudd'field 2

Not on coupons: Shrewsbury v Birmingham

THIRD DIVISION

28 Bury v Scarboro 1
29 Carlisle v Rochdale 1
30 Chest'field v Hereford 1
31 Colchester v Gillingham 1
32 Exeter v Doncaster X
33 Hartlepool v Wigan 1
34 Lincoln v Barnet 2
35 Mansfield v Preston 1
36 North'pton v Fulham 1
37 Torquay v Scunthorpe 1

Not on coupons: Darlington v Walsall

NORTHRN PREM LGE PREMIER DIVISION

38 Droylsden v Boston 2
39 Gainsboro v Accr'gton 1
40 Guiseley v Witton 1
41 Marine v Buxton 1
42 Matlock v Whitley Bay X
43 Spennymr v Colwyn B X

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

44 Gloucester v Worc'str 2
45 Halesowen v Solihull X
46 Leek v Hednesford 1
47 Sittingb'rne v Gresley 1
48 Sudbury v Atherstone X

DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

49 Chesham v Hendon 1
50 Dulwich v Walton & H 1
51 Grays v Yeading X
52 Hayes v Hitchin 1
53 Marlow v Enfield 2

SCOTTISH PREMIER

54 Dundee U v Celtic 1
55 Falkirk v Aberdeen 2
56 Hearts v Motherwell X
57 Kilmarnock v Hibs 2
58 Rangers v Partick 1

B & Q CUP FINAL

Not on coupons: Dundee v Airdrie (Sunday)

SCOTTISH FIRST

Not on coupons: Dunfermline v Clydebank; Hamilton v Raith; St Mirren v Ayr

SCOTTISH SECOND

Not on coupons: Berwick v Brechin; Clyde v Queen of the South; Dumbarton v Stirling; East Fife v Stenhousemuir; Morton v Meadowbank

SCOTTISH THIRD

Not on coupons: Alloa v Forfar; Arbroath v Cowdenbeath; Montrose v Albion; Queen's Pk v Caledonian; Ross v East Stirling

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Barnsley, Reading, Swindon, Bristol Rovers, Crewe, Exeter, Matlock, Spennymoor, Halesowen, Sudbury, Grays, Hearts.

BEST DRAWS: Barnsley, Bristol Rovers, Exeter, Spennymoor, Hearts

AWAYS: Bolton, Sunderland, Hull, Huddersfield, Boston.

HOMES: Blackburn, Manchester City, Wolves, Bournemouth, Cardiff, Rotherham, Bury, Chesterfield, Northampton, Gainsborough, Leek, Sittingbourne.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Manchester City, Bournemouth, Rotherham, Chesterfield. Aways: Bolton, Hull, Gainsborough. Draws: Barnsley, Bristol Rovers, Exeter. Huddersfield.

□ Vince Wright

هكذا من الاصل

Bilbao's guile and resolve threaten United's slender advantage in Uefa Cup tie

Newcastle must temper their attacking instincts

FROM ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN BILBAO

MUST the British travel so *loudly*? The advance corps of the "Toon Army" descended in the still of a calm, warm Hallowe'en night in the Atlantic port of Bilbao yesterday, and at once made their presence voltably felt. The gist of their song was that they considered the Spaniards were about to depart from the Uefa Cup.

If it were only the supporters, then perhaps the players of this proudly Basque city would humour them. But they have also heard the words of Andy Cole. The Newcastle United striker might not be playing, but he said after their 3-2 win in the first leg of this second-round tie: "You could see in their faces, they thought the tie had turned in their favour. *But I think I scored the* winner. What encourages me is the way they defended. We can exploit their weaknesses."

Yet the Basques also saw something at St James' Park to their advantage. They saw fatigue, rather than mere complacency, in those final 20 minutes, when they came from 3-0 down to within a goal of Newcastle. And now, pleased that the player they call "*El Electrico*" has been put out of the second game, they think there are spaces to exploit behind the adventurous full backs, Hottiger and Beresford.

They also have rather more belief in their defence than appeared the case in the first hour in Newcastle. It is a defence that, bar the games against Deportivo La Coruña and Real Madrid, has conceded just two goals in seven Spanish league games. Moreover, they have won both their matches against Sporting Gijon and Racing Santander 2-0, with José Ziganda, the lean, willing centre forward, the predator in each.

Newcastle's defence will remember him. He threatened and was thwarted by Srnicek before he finally brought the game back towards the Basques, and once he had scored, once he had shown that Peacock was no match for him on the ground, Newcastle ought to have realised that here was a player who could plunder them if they remain naive.

Against that is the likelihood that, *despite finally losing* their magnificent unbeaten run at Old Trafford on Saturday, Kevin Keegan will attack. With the squad and the attitude he has built, the Newcastle manager has very little choice. But it is a pity that Cole, his talisman, is unavailable for selection.

Cole has travelled with Newcastle, and some journalists were probing Keegan to see if the manager might now be panicked into playing him barely a few days into the month that he knows Cole requires to recover from worn muscles around the shins. Such a gamble, Keegan said, is not on his mind. One hopes not, for one night of glory against Athletic Club de Bilbao is not worth the continuing harm that could be done to a career that might serve Newcastle for half a decade.



Beardsley: highly regarded

Athletic are billing this as the match of the decade. Their San Mames stadium will be filled to its 45,000 capacity tonight. Among those there will be 1,500 Geordie voices, drowned for once by the volume of noise that represents the acceptable face of Basque separatism.

The Basques now see sport as the legitimate claim to autonomy. As Manchester United will find in Barcelona tomorrow, the separatists among the Spanish peoples converge on their sporting teams and count Europe as the nights for victory.

The North East of England can only blame itself. Shipyard workers from Sunderland placed the seeds of football here in 1898, the first football club in Spain playing in Sunderland red and white stripes. And the Basque players consider themselves more physical, in the English mould, than the more volatile and fickle Spanish game.

When Cole speaks of a defence that he thinks his colleagues can breach, he does not know the half of Bilbao's strength. There were six players missing when Bilbao travelled to St James': one of them, Julen Guerrero, 20 but as vital to Bilbao as Beardsley is to Newcastle, is fighting his fitness battle in the hope of returning for the second leg.

If he plays, tucked in behind Ziganda, then Newcastle will face something considerably more guileful than they did two weeks ago. And the other absentees? Bilbao are not sure they need them, for in their absence they drew on reserves who have turned their season around, have put them on a par with Real Madrid and Barcelona in the championship race.

So, without Cole, can Newcastle sting them first? Keegan has to wait until this morning to see whether Fox, who pulled a hamstring on Saturday, is fit to be risked in attack alongside "*El Veterano*", as the Basques affectionately dub Beardsley. And, being students of the English game, they also fear the explosiveness with which Lee bursts out of midfield.

Keegan, in his honesty, referred to his team as "toothless tigers" at Old Trafford. He now says: "If Bilbao think they've done the hard part, champion. But remember we are still 3-2 ahead, and we haven't lost two games in a row many times in my time at Newcastle."

There goes the sound again. Stealth and silence might have been a better approach.



Injuries to other forwards give Atkinson a chance to restore his reputation as a player for the big occasion in the Uefa Cup match with the Turks of Trabzonspor at Villa Park tonight. Photograph: Mark Leech

Villa's cup specialists on trial

BY PETER BALL

A SIDE that was good enough to come from behind to beat Internazionale of Milan ought to find repeating the feat against Trabzonspor plain sailing. Instead Aston Villa are facing one of the crucial moments in their season against the Turkish team at Villa Park this evening in the second leg of their Uefa Cup tie.

Trabzonspor lead through the goal scored by Orhan two weeks ago. But with Turkish sides having a reputation as poor travellers, the deficit is well within Villa's compass, although it is no exaggeration to suggest that more than one or two careers will hang on Villa negotiating this game successfully.

A team capable of tremendous highs, as they showed in beating Manchester United at Wembley in March and Inter a month ago, their form in between has been disappointing. Saturday's defeat by Queens Park Rangers, followed by Wimbledon's win over Norwich on Sunday, has left them in the bottom four, an unacceptable position for a side assembled so expensively, and for one that Ron Atkinson, their manager, expected to be challenging for honours at the other end of the table.

"The team has a chance to redeem itself, and not many teams in our position get that chance," Atkinson said yesterday. "Instead of playing in another glory night at Villa Park, we could have been involved in another relegation battle. It has puzzled and amazed me what has been going on in the league, but at the moment we have Europe on our minds. We're looking for a place in the last 16, and that ought to be motivation enough."

Their success in Europe and their continuing interest in the Coca-Cola Cup is persuading Atkinson to keep faith with his squad for the time being. "The chairman has told me that there is money available," Atkinson said, "but I still believe this squad is good enough. It is a fine balance at the moment. We are a hair's breadth away from getting some good results. I also have to remember that this squad has produced two of the best performances ever seen from Aston Villa sides."

They cannot go on living on the performances against Manchester United and Inter for ever. A failure tonight would be the final straw for Atkinson, if not for Doug Ellis, the chairman, whose unhappiness has been increasingly visible.

But the question Atkinson perhaps needs to ask is whether success tonight will do more than paper over the cracks that are becoming visible in an ageing team. Goals — or rather, the lack of them — have been a continuing problem. With Whittingham and Fashanu both unavailable, and the restriction on foreigners also limiting his choice, Atkinson is likely to play his namesake, Dalian, and Saunders as his front pair.

It is not a partnership that has evoked much fear among defenders in recent weeks. Atkinson has scored only two goals all season, against Wigan in the Coca-Cola Cup, and Saunders, too, has not been impressing his manager recently.

If goals have been a problem all season, at Loftus Road the defence also faltered badly. Bosnich is likely to lose his place in goal anyway to Spink, *under the restrictions on foreign players*, but a domestic injury to Sean Teale ensures that McGrath keeps his place and also gives an unexpected elevation to Chris Boden, a young full back or midfield player who will be on the bench as defensive cover.

Forwards return to strengthen Wales

MARK Hughes, Ryan Giggs and Ian Rush, who all missed the 3-2 defeat in Moldavia last month, return to the Wales squad for the European championship group seven qualifying game with Georgia in Tbilisi on November 16.

Also available again is Dean Saunders, of Aston Villa, who missed the first two games of the qualifying competition because of suspension. The manager, Mike Smith, hopes that Hughes, who has been troubled by a groin strain that needs an operation, *will be fit enough to* play.

There is no room for Nathan Blake, of Sheffield United, who scored in Moldavia while the Portsmouth defender, Kit Symons, and the Derby County midfield player, Mark Pembridge, are also omitted. Alan Neilson, of Newcastle, is brought into the squad. The side will again be captained by Barry Horne, of Everton.

Wrexham, of the second division, provide three of the under-21 party for its match with Georgia on the previous day, Mark Cartwright, Scott Williams and Deryn Brace.

WALES SQUAD: N Southall (Everton), T Roberts (OPR), A Nelson (Newcastle), A Melville (Sunderland), A Williams (Reading), C Coleman (Crystal Palace), P Bodin (Swindon), M Bowen (Norwich), B Horne (Everton), D Phillips (Nottingham Forest), G Speed (Leeds), J Cornforth (Swansea), J Goss (Norwich), D Saunders (Aston Villa), I Rush (Liverpool), M Hughes (Manchester United), R Giggs (Manchester United), I Roberts (Leicester).

UNDER-21 SQUAD (For European Under-21 championship qualifying tie with Georgia in Tbilisi on November 15): D Coyne (Tranmere), M Cartwright (Wrexham), D Barnhouse (Swansea), S Williams (Wrexham), R Page (Watford), R Edwards (Bristol City), D Brace (Wrexham), I Hughes (Bury), G Davies (Hereford), C Twiddy (Plymouth), A Morgan (Tranmere), R Jones (Sheffield Wednesday), A Bird (Cardiff), L Jones (Liverpool), J Hartson (Luton), G Taylor (Bristol Rovers).

Supporters attack FA over tickets

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

SUPPORTERS yesterday criticised the Football Association's ticket policy for the European championship finals in 1996. The Football Supporters' Association (FSA) claims that it could cost as much as £2,000 to guarantee two seats for the Wembley final.

Tickets went on sale last week, but the only way to ensure a single ticket for the final is to buy a minimum of two tickets for three group matches, a quarter-final and a semi-final. That would mean a minimum outlay of between £340, for matches at Old Trafford, and £800 at Wembley, where the cost could rise to more than £1,000 once cheaper tickets have been sold.

If a husband and wife, or father and son, both want to see the final, they must buy four tickets for each of the earlier rounds.

The FSA has called upon the FA to reconsider the system. Steve Beauchampe, an FSA spokesman, said: "We appreciate that tickets for the final will be in great demand but this method does not reward loyalty, however quickly supporters buy their tickets."

The FSA claims the real reason for the policy is to ensure the earlier matches sell out. "I have a feeling the FA ... would rather just have the money as soon as possible," Beauchampe said. "The FA should have continued the policy they devised for club season ticket holders and Friends of Euro '96, and allowed supporters in general to apply for a final ticket after buying just one ticket for each of the earlier rounds."

□ Uefa, the governing body of European football, has criticised Fifa's decision to allow teams to field three players above the age of 23 at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. Gerhard Aigner, secretary general of Uefa, said the rule change by the world governing body undermines its attempt to safeguard youth competitions.

Cutler cuts a dash to edge out challenge of Bertrand

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

A CROWD of 12,000 spectators watched six America's Cup yachts battle it out in two exhibition races in the harbour here yesterday. The crews were helped by wind that had been in precious short supply on the Cup course, six miles off Point Loma. In the first race, *Nipon 92*, skippered by John Cutler, took the winning gun by one second from *oneAustralia*, skippered by John Bertrand.

In the second heat, the order was reversed. The crowd was further enthralled by a close contest between the women's crew that emerged victorious on *America³*, Bill Koch's yacht, against Dennis Conner, aboard *Stars & Stripes*.

Racing for the world championship resumes out of sight on the Pacific Ocean today, but a further exhibition match in San Diego Bay is being planned as a finale to the series next weekend.

Two sleek yachts belonging to Peter Blake's Team New Zealand were loaded on to a container ship in Auckland yesterday to be transported to San Diego for the America's Cup regatta next year.

Black Magic I has been sailing at Waitemata harbour for the past two months, while *Black Magic II* has not yet been tested on water.

Both yachts have black hulls emblazoned with the New Zealand national symbol, the silver fern, but there are subtle design changes to *Black Magic II*. The Louis Vuitton Cup for America's Cup challengers begins off San Diego on January 15. The final, a best-of-nine series, will begin on May 6.

David Adams was the class II victor on the first stage of the BOC Challenge solo round-the-world race. The Australian and his 50ft yacht, *True Blue*, set a record time for the 6,000-mile voyage from Charleston to Cape Town, clipping more than two days off the previous best time set by Yves Dupasquier, of France.

Adams enjoyed a change in fortunes when Giovanni Soldini's Italian entry, *Kodak*, which had led the race by 350 miles, hit a whale two weeks ago, damaging the rudder. Soldini eventually finished a day behind Adams.

Another competitor to suffer misfortune was Christophe Auguin, winner of the previous BOC race three years ago. His 60ft yacht, *Seta Calberson, which began as* the clear favourite, suffered generator failure leaving the Frenchman without power for his autopilots. He eventually took third place in class VII, seven days behind the race leader, Isabelle Autissier.

All 3,000 crew in the fiftieth Sydney to Hobart race, which starts on December 26, will carry personal distress beacons. The beacons, which transmit if a crewman falls overboard, were agreed in the aftermath of last year's race, in which storms forced more than half the fleet to retire.

Waugh flies home as battle begins

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

STEVE Waugh, the Australian all-rounder, is flying home with a strained shoulder and misses the third and final Test match against Pakistan, starting in Lahore today. Waugh broke down on Sunday during the limited-overs series final, in which Australia beat Pakistan by 64 runs.

Waugh is the second Australian to fly home from the tour. Ian Healy, the wicketkeeper, broke his left thumb in a one-day match against Pakistan at Rawalpindi nine days ago and was replaced by Phil Emery.

The New South Wales captain, Emery last night seemed set to win his first Test cap for Australia as they attempt to square the series. Pakistan lead 1-0 after winning the opening Test by one wicket.

The Pakistanis have recalled Moin Khan as a replacement for Rashid Latif, the wicketkeeper, who suffered a bruised thumb during the final on Sunday. This was one of four squad changes announced yesterday.

Also recalled are Basit Ali, who missed the second Test because of groin trouble, his fellow middle-order batsman, Ejaz Ahmed, who finished third in the batting averages for the one-day competition, and Aaqib Javed, the fast bowler.

Emery made an impressive international debut in the one-day final, taking three catches and sharing in an unbroken sixth-wicket stand of 43 with Michael Bevan that helped the side to its highest total of the competition. "Phil certainly played his due role and took some very good catches," Mark Taylor, his captain, said.

"It has been a very good tour so far. The only disappointment was the loss at Karachi. But that's part of cricket. We look forward to another great performance by the players. Sunday's triumph has certainly pumped up our adrenalin."

Australia have not won a Test series in Pakistan for 35 years. Their last success was under Richie Benaud in 1959-60, when they took the three-Test series 2-0.

PAKISTAN (from): Salim Malik (captain), Saeed Anwar, Aamir Sohail, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Basit Ali, Ejaz Ahmed, Moin Khan, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Aqib Javed, Mushtaq Ahmed, Akram Raza, Asif Mujtaba, Mohsin Kamal.

AUSTRALIA (from): M A Taylor (captain), M J Slater, M E Waugh, D C Boon, M G Bevan, P Emery, S K Warne, C J McDermott, G McGrath, D Fleming, T B A May, J Langer, J Angel.

Atherton backs ICC code of conduct

As the Ashes series approaches, **Ivo Tennant** reports on the reflections of the England cricket captain who endured a turbulent year

As he prepares for what he describes as his "Ashes adventure", Michael Atherton has strongly criticised the standard of county cricket, suggested that overseas players should be excluded from it, and has supported the International Cricket Council's (ICC) attempts to deal with bad behaviour on the field.

In a wide-ranging review of 1994 for the foreword of the forthcoming *Benson and Hedges Cricket Year* (Headline, £19.99), the England captain has eschewed further comment on "my various contretemps with ICC referee Peter Burge", other than to endorse upholding the ideals of the game. Players and referees, he writes, must attempt to strike a balance between commitment and fair play.

"This year, one retirement has stood out, that of Allan Border. Dare I say it, this has coincided with a significant attempt to clean up the game's image. There is a clear message from the authorities that lapses in behaviour will not be tolerated. It is to be remembered, however, that it is precisely the emotion and passion that make Test cricket, in particular, a great game."

Atherton criticises the media for endeavouring "to drive a wedge" between himself and Ray Illingworth, the chairman of selectors. "I would like to say that the relationship is a harmonious one and has prospered," Atherton writes. "Certainly I have appreciated his support during the difficult times of the summer."

Like his predecessor as England captain, Graham Gooch, Atherton despairs of the domestic game: "The general standard of county cricket remains too low, with too few players who would be deemd good enough to play first-class cricket elsewhere, and too few whose aspirations are loftier than the county scene. It is to be hoped that the four-day structure will gradually improve the standard.

"I have my doubts. Too many counties, too many players, too little competitiveness are inherent weaknesses which a facelift will do little to change. I fear for the paying spectator, too; four-day cricket on bland wickets does little for the imagination and the game is poorer without the variety that different conditions, such as festival weeks, which have been reduced in number over the years, and uncovered wickets, would bring."

On overseas players, Atherton's feeling are ambiguous. "It would seem strange that while extolling the virtues of one overseas player — Brian Lara — and the effect on his county, the Test and County Cricket Board is considering the future of overseas players in England," he writes. "In particular it is strange that it is Lancashire, a county with a strong tradition of overseas players, who are forwarding the proposals.



Atherton: clear message

"From a county viewpoint the overseas player brings flair and entertainment and provides a stiff challenge for home-grown talent. As a member of the national side it is irritating to see the improvement of such players after a season in England.

"*It seems to me that the* feeling around the counties is not yet strong enough to end our association with overseas players for good, yet this may well be an issue where the counties should bow to the needs of the national side. After all, who finances the county programme?

"This has, as the Queen might say, been a turbulent year. Forty-six all out in Trinidad and two awful performances at headquarters have been among the lows. Counter-balancing these was the momentus victory in Barbados and, on the first anniversary of my first win as England captain, some stunning cricket against South Africa, whose return was a momentus occasion. It was a privilege to see one of their 'lost generation' of cricketers, Mike Procter, enjoying their moment of victory without any hint of bitterness or remorse."

Harare Test ends in damp draw

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE third and final Test match between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka ended in a draw after poor light and rain prevented any play on the final day of the match in Harare yesterday. The series was drawn 0-0.

The match was abandoned when torrential rain set in just before lunch. All three matches in the series were severely affected by adverse weather, although the series was also marred by slow scoring by both sides. The teams will now meet in three one-day internationals.

The outcome of this match means that Zimbabwe are still without a win since they gained Test status two years ago. They have drawn five and lost five of their ten matches.

SRI LANKA: First innings 402 (H P Tillekaratne 116, A P Gurusinha 54; H H Streak 4 for 97)

Second innings

A P Gurusinha c Whittall b Brain	13
R S Mahanama lbw b Brain	0
S Ranatunga c Whittall b Streak	8
P A de Silva not out	41
*A Ranatunga not out	22
Extras (b 2, nb 3)	5
Total (3 wkts)	89

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-24, 3-58

BOWLING: Streak 12-4-32-1; Brain 11-1-46-2; Jarvis 1-0-7-0

ZIMBABWE: First innings 373 (D L Houghton 142, A D R Campbell 99, G J Whittall 61; not out, R Price 7 for 119)

□ Manoj Prabhakar and Nayan Mongia have been dropped from India's one-day squad for slow scoring during their side's 46-run defeat by West Indies in a one-day match at Kanpur on Sunday. Prabhakar scored an unbeaten century but the pair scored only 16 runs from the last 43 balls of the innings.

They have been replaced by Rahul Dravid, an all-rounder, and Vijay Yadav, like Mongia a wicketkeeper, for the remainder of the limited-overs series, which also includes New Zealand. India face New Zealand in their final qualifying match on Thursday but look assured of a place in the final.

Prabhakar and Mongia were not alone in being criticised in the wake of the match on Sunday: so, too, were the ground authorities at Green Park, Kanpur, for the unruly crowd behaviour. Courtney Walsh was hit by a bottle while fielding near the boundary and the match was held up for 15 minutes while the West Indies captain showed the missile to team officials. Kanpur is certain to be one of India's World Cup venues in 1996.

Fair play wins the day, Ballesteros steals the season

John Hopkins, golf correspondent, says that a year of many memories was dominated by the return to form of a charismatic Spaniard

A DARK-eyed, dark-haired Spaniard became the Masters champion. A South African, broad in the shoulder and long in the leg, graduated from his apprenticeship on the European Tour to become the US Open champion. Colin Montgomerie, having won the Order of Merit in 1993, did so again in the face of a challenge from a revitalised Severiano Ballesteros.

The mind is full of images from the 1994 professional season: from the desert heat of Dubai in January and the Oriental hospitality of Thailand in February to José María Olazábal in the twilight shadows at Augusta in April: from the intense, debilitating humidity of Oakmont in June, where Ernie Els beat Montgomerie and Loren Roberts in a play-off for the US Open, to the coastal splendour of Turnberry in July.

Yet, because what is most recently imprinted on the mind's eye is the most easily recalled, a burly, grey-haired official of the PGA European Tour may have made almost as great an impact on the season as any. John Paramor faced down Ballesteros, the most intimidating player in Europe. On Sunday evening, as dusk gathered over the Andalucian coast, Paramor stood up for the rights and wrongs of golf.

As television beamed the confrontation around the world, he demonstrated that, in this sport at least, it is still possible for a courteous discussion to take place and the correct ruling to be made, for right and good sense to prevail over wrong and intimidation.

It was refreshing to come across an official who had the moral courage to do his job. Paramor reminded us that golf is still one of the most admirable sports in a world where concepts such as honour and integrity cannot always be associated with other sports. An American sportswriter once said that sport is the toy department of life. Even deep down in the basement, there are rules. Otherwise why play the game?

It was fitting that Ballesteros should have been the centrepiece at the end of the season for he had cast a long shadow since it started, in January, when he was in Arizona working for hours each day to strengthen his back. In May, having reshaped his swing under the guidance of Mac O'Grady, he won at St Mellion. In September, he won in Germany. He played something approaching the golf of his dreams in the World Match Play Championship before losing to Els, then criss-crossed Europe in a frenzied attempt to win the Order of Merit for a seventh time. He failed but, being Ballesteros, he did so with a demonstration of enduring theatre.

The exercise programme he must follow has transformed his life. "For me, exercise is like someone has to eat to survive," he said. Yet he is prepared to commit himself to it, thereby giving himself a chance of extending his competitive career for a few more years. He may yet be playing well enough to be a candidate for the European team in the 1997 Ryder Cup, which he will surely captain anyway.

Of all the remarks one heard this year, perhaps the most surprising was Ballesteros's when he said he needed to improve his short game. This from a man who played the stroke of a decade on the 4th hole at Augusta in April, somehow spiriting his ball over a bunker onto a patch of green scarcely bigger than a handkerchief and stopping it on a downslope. Must a man who can do that practise his short game? Apparently so.

Ballesteros cited one shot as evidence that he is no longer the magician that he once was. "That shot on the 17th against Els at Wentworth was not good," he said. "I had 70 yards, I played a sand wedge and the ball didn't stop by the flag. It rolled to the back of the green."

"That was not like you," someone said. Ballesteros smiled. "No," he said. "Not at all. I must work harder."

Nick Faldo, after 11 events in Europe that included one missed cut and one victory, leaves for the United States after Christmas. Will he find new success in the New World? So does Els, who is quitting Europe after three formative seasons. Olazábal will remain in Europe and the world will remain at his feet.

A name to watch next year is Klas Eriksson, who won the Challenge Tour in 1993 and finished second in the Czech Open in 1994 on his way to coming 45th in the Order of Merit. Another is Jonathan Lomas, the Englishman, who first came to notice in Dubai when, after a brilliant opening round, he finished fourth. Friendly, articulate and confident, he earned £163,000 in his first season on the main Tour.

The Ryder Cup, at Rochester, New York, next September, has added a bit of zest to the end of this year's events. The race for places is already on. It is a powerful lure for the old guard like Ian Woosnam, twelfth in the Order of Merit, for Sam Torrance, 22nd, and Mark James, 29th.

It is most powerful for Ballesteros. He will be there. He has practically made sure of that already. He is back and playing some of the best golf of his career. That is the best news of all. He turned his season from a fiasco into a fiesta. *Olé.*

EUROPEAN TOUR TOP 30 PLACES

GB and Ire unless stated

1, C Montgomerie £782,719; 2, B Langer (Ger) £635,483; 3, S Ballesteros (Sp) £590,101; 4, J M Olazábal (Sp) £516,107; 5, M A Jiménez (Sp) £437,403; 6, V Singh (Fiji) £364,313; 7, D Gilford £326,629; 8, N Faldo £321,256; 9, M Roe £312,539; 10, E Els (SA) £311,849; 11, B Lane £277,362; 12, I Woosnam £273,264; 13, M McNulty (Zim) £270,349; 14, E Romero (Arg) £268,422; 15, P-U Johansson (Swe) £259,952; 16, H Clark £247,865; 17, R Allenby (Aus) £240,174; 18, P Mitchell £231,332; 19, C Mason £205,112; 20, F Nobilo (NZ) £191,583;21, A Forsbrand (Swe) £191,235; 22, S Torrance £186,043; 23, P Fulke (Swe) £178,842; 24, G Brand jnr £171,602; 25, J Haeggman (Swe) £170,999; 26, J Parnevik (Swe) £169,633; 27, G Turner (NZ) £168,136; 28, R Claydon £167,328; 29, M James £166,434; 30, C Rocca (It) £165,121

TOUR FACTS AND FIGURES

Lowest round: 61: E Els (SA), Dubai Desert Classic (-11); C Mason, Bell's Scottish Open (-9). Lowest total: 263: V Singh (Fiji), Lancôme Trophy (-17). 265: C Mason, Bell's Scottish Open (-15). 266: P Curry, Jersey European Airways Open (-22); E Romero (Arg), *European Masters (-22).* Course records: 12.

Biggest margin of victory: 6 strokes: E Els, Dubai Desert Classic. Most under par during season: 160: C Montgomerie. Holes-in-one: 24. Albatrosses: 4: A Forsbrand (Swe), Cannes Open; P Fulke (Swe), Volvo PGA; P Curry, Jersey European Airways Open, M A Jiménez (Sp), Volvo Masters. Most birdies: 383: R Claydon. Most eagles: 13, A Binaghi, A Forsbrand (Swe), L Westwood.

Most wins: 3: C Montgomerie (Spanish Open, Murphy's English Open, German Open). Maiden wins: E Els, Dubai Desert Classic; P Eales, Open de Extremadura; C Mason, Turespana Masters Open de Andalucia; P Price, Portuguese Open; S Ames (Trin), Open V33, Lyons; J Cocares, Catalan Open, R Allenby, Honda Open; P Curry, Jersey European Airways Open. Consecutive years with win: 16: B Langer (Ger).

Biggest gains (in top 40): 42nd to 3rd, S Ballesteros (Sp); 35th to 5th: M A Jiménez (Sp); 46th to 15th: P-U Johansson (Swe); 51st to 18th: H Clark, 70th to 18th: R Allenby; 86th to 23rd, P Fulke (Swe), 79th to 28th: R Claydon. Biggest drops (out of top 40): 7th to 55th: P Baker; 12th to 64th: R Rafferty; 13th to 74th: S Richardson; 19th to 131th: P Broadhurst; 31st to 149th, P Fowler; 33rd to 124th, D W Basson.

BLAKE SELL



McCumber celebrates after winning the Tour Championship at the first extra hole

McCumber's lesson pays off

MARK McCumber, relaxed and confident after a tip from an old stager had transformed his game, holed a 35-foot putt for a birdie at the first hole of a sudden-death play-off to win the Tour Championship, the concluding event of the US PGA Tour golf season, in San Francisco on Sunday.

McCumber, 43, registered a bogey on the final hole at the Olympic course to tie with his American compatriot, Fuzzy Zoeller, only to win minutes later at the same hole.

McCumber and Zoeller each shot a final-round 68, three under par, for a total of 274 to go into a play-off. For Zoeller, it was the fifth time he had finished runner-up in a tournament this season after an eight-year gap without a victory on the tour.

"I was the most relaxed I've ever been winning a golf tournament." McCumber, who received a winner's cheque of $540,000 (about £360,000) from a purse of $3 million, the richest in golf, said. The victory was his tenth on the tour.

McCumber said his career had been turned around by a putting tip from Dave Stockton, a leading player on the Senior Tour. "I was struggling with my putting. I found I had been doing something wrong mechanically for years," McCumber said, explaining that since correcting the problem of putting too much weight on his heels, he had won three times in the past four months.

McCumber and Zoeller finished one shot ahead Brad Bryant. Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, who finished equal twentieth, was the leading money-winner on the tour for the second successive year.

Results, page 40

RADIO CHOICE

All aboard for a navy lark

Stilgoe's Around. *Radio 4, 12.25pm.*

Every Tuesday, a different theme and venue but, except for a different guest, this new comedy and music series will feature the same team of Richard Stilgoe, Belinda Lang, Charles Collingwood, and Kerry Shale. The inaugural programme comes from *HMS Illustrious*, where officers and ratings predictably roar their appreciation of every naval joke. Today's subject, however, is all three armed services. This allows for quips about the world's first inflatable army, a Swiss army demonstration using one of those remarkable multi-bladed pen-knives, and an RAF operation to scare off unwanted *ramblers*. The guest is Pam Ayres. Once the sailors get their measure of her, her poem about a giant limpet is given a following wind.

These Foolish Things: The Eric Maschwitz Story. *Radio 2, 9.00pm.*

Sophisticated song lyrics were Maschwitz's forte. He probably never wrote a line that, for the sake of rhyme, twisted a sentiment until it made us wince. I quote at random: "A tinkling piano in the next apartment/Those stumbling words that told you what my heart meant". Here is another, about a honeymooners' hotel: "We hadn't dared to ask the price/And who could argue over Paradise". As for romantic lyrics that have achieved a kind of immortality, Maschwitz's "A Nightingale sang in Berkeley Square" has indelibly printed on our imagination a picture of angels dining at the Ritz. Michael Bevis's life of Maschwitz is pure enchantment. Peter Davall.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes 6.30 Kevin Greening 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Emma Freud talks to Kenneth Branagh, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Goodier 4.00 Nicky Campbell, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 The Story of Pop: heavy metal 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00-4.00am Mark Tonderai

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 3.00am Alex Lester 6.00 Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce, including at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Martyn Lewis 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 Paul Heiney 7.00 Hayes Over Britain: Phone 0645 288291 8.30 Michael Bentine: The Reluctant Jester Strikes Back 9.00 These Foolish Things: The Eric Maschwitz Story. See Choice 10.00 Explorer 2 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden with Night Ride 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, including at 10.35 Euronews; 11.15 Dirty News 12.00 Midday with Mair, including at 12.34pm Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Inverdale 6.12 The Tuesday Match: Newcastle United v Athletic Bilbao 7.00 News Extra 7.15 Aston Villa v Trabzonspor 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours 2.00-5.00 Up All Night

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Nick Abbot 10.00 N.J. Williams 2.00-6.00am Janey Lee Grace

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.36am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: *Palace Walk* 7.30 New Ideas 7.50 Among My Souvenirs 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Concert Hall 9.00 News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 Sharp Talents 9.30 On Screen 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 Discovery 10.30 A Tapestry of Sounds 10.45 Mittagsmagazin 11.00 News 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 News 12.10pm Words of Faith 12.15 Multitrack Hit List 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Off the Shelf: *Palace Walk* 2.45 Wood, Guts and Brass 3.00 News 3.15 A Jolly Good Show 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business Report 5.15 BBC English 6.00 News 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 Kaleidoskop 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 The World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.05 Business Report 10.15 Megamix 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Omnibus 12.00 News 12.15am Concert Hall 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Turkey: An Ethnic Mosaic 1.45 Country Style 2.00 News 2.30 Andy Kershaw's World of Music 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Discovery 4.00 Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The Opera Guide 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' John 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Nick Abbot 10.00 N.J. Williams 2.00-6.00am Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air, Nicholas Gregor... McGregor. Including Carver (O bone... (Overture... (Horn Concerto No 1 in D, K412); 8.05 Ethel Smyth (Overture, The Wreckers); Handel (Hallelujah Chorus, Messiah); Strauss (Till Eulenspiegels lustige Streiche, Op 28)
9.00 **Composer of the Week:** Sibelius. Roderick Swanston introduces violin pieces, Humoresques, Op 87 Nos 1 and 2 (Dong-Suk Kang); Violin Concerto in D minor, Op 47 (Ida Haendel); Three Pieces, Op 116 (Nils-Erik Sparf)
10.00 **Musical Encounters,** with Andrew Lyle. Smetana (Six Characteristic Pieces: Nos 3 and 4); Budehudie (Suite in E minor); 10.15 *Artist of the Week:* Jascha Heifetz, violin. 11.00 Philip Canon (Bird Songs); Philips (Dolorosa Pavan and Galliard); Tippett (Ritual Dances, The Midsummer Marriage)
12.00 **Music Restored:** St James Baroque under Ivor Bolton performs Marc-Antoine Charpentier (De Profundis; Assumpta est Maria) (r)
1.00pm **Ulster Orchestra** under Kenneth Montgomery performs Smetana (Overture, *The Bartered Bride*); *Stanford* (Concert Piece for organ and orchestra); Grieg (Lyric Suite); Boëllmann (Fantaisie dialoguée for organ and orchestra: Gillian Weir) (r)
2.00 **Schools:** Playtime 2.15 Time to Move 2.35 Listen!
3.00 **The BBC Orchestras:** BBC National Orchestra of Wales ... Nicholas Cleobury ... Mussorgsky, arr ... Night on ... Mountain); Pantel Jones; Tchaikovsky and Schumann
4.25 **Music from the Spanish Renaissance:** A selection of songs from the 16th-century
5.00 **The Music Machine:** The role of the trumpet player in the orchestra
5.15 **In Tune:** Nicola Heywood-Thomas's guest is the conductor Mariss Jansons
7.30 **Deutsche Romantik: Pebble Mill.** Live from Studio One, Grigory Sokolov, piano, plays Schubert (Sonata in A minor, *D537*; Six Moments Musicaux, *D780*). 8.25 The German Nazarenes. Dr Colin Bailey considers the work of artists Friedrich Overbeck and Franz Pforr. 8.45 Chopin (Six Mazurkas); Prokofiev (Piano Sonata No 7)
9.35 **Quad Wrangles:** Russell Davies investigates the game of academic snakes and ladders
9.55 **BBC Singers:** Simon Joly conducts Bach (Motet: Komm, Jesu, komm! BWV 229); Cornelius (Liebe); Christoph Delz (Istanbul) (r)
10.45 **Night Waves:** The history of the 20th century
11.30-12.30am **Night School:** BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Grant Llewellyn performs Mathias (Divertimento; Op 7); Vaughan Williams (Oboe Concerto); Janáček (Suite for strings)
1.00-1.40 **Night School:** Spanish 12-14 — El Fantasma

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day with Father Eamon Martin 6.30 Today, with James Naughtie and Sue MacGregor, incl *8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30* News 7.45 Thought for the Day, with Mary Grey 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News**
9.05 **Call Nick Ross:** 071-580 4444. Topical phone-in. Lines open from 8am
10.00-10.30 **News; Hack on the Cut** *(FM only): A 300-mile* canal journey from Liverpool to London (3/6)
10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only)
10.15 **Paradise Lost** (LW only): Part 37
10.30 **Woman's Hour,** introduced by Mavis Nicholson 11.00 News
11.30 **All in the Mind:** The fascination of the naked flame
12.00 **News; You and Yours,** with John Howard
12.25pm **Stilgoe's Around:** See Choice 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One,** with James Cox
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; Lost and Found:** As part of the *City on Air* season, the performance poet Martin Glynn uses poetry and prose, accompanied by improvised jazz, to explore a young man's search for his lost identity
2.30 **Richard Baker Compares Notes** with the Italian-born pianist Aldo Ciccolini and his only English-born pupil, Mark Bebbington
3.00 **News; Anderson Country,** with Gerry Anderson
4.00 **News 4.05 Kaleidoscope:** Robert Dawson Scott reads the exploits of private eye Easy Rawlins in Walter Mosley's novel, *Black Betty*
4.45 **Short Story: Glass,** by Kathleen Jones. Read by Valerie Windsor
5.00 **PM** with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **A Perfect Spy:** Sixth of an eight-part adaptation of John le Carré's novel. With James Fox as Magnus Pym, James Grout as Jack Brotherhood and Brenda Bruce as Miss Dubber (r)
7.00 **News 7.05 The Archers**
7.20 **File on 4:** Mark Whitaker reports
8.00 **Science Now,** presented by Peter Evans (r)
8.30 **In Living Colour:** Juliet Alexander presents the magazine for black and Asian people in Britain
9.00 **In Touch:** Peter White presents the magazine for people with a visual handicap
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight,** with Isabel Hilton
10.45 **Book at Bedtime:** The Ramayana of Valmiki
11.00 **Medburnwave,** presented by Roy Greenslade (r)
11.30 **Sentimental Journey:** The writer, actor and singer Marsha Hunt takes Arthur Smith back to her birthplace of Philadelphia (r)
12.00-12.43am **News,** incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM -94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Deer and Gillian Moxey



Dance lessons available tonight. Channel 4. 22:30.

PURE GENIUS.

Bates to ensure old guard prospers

BY STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE old order in British tennis is not expected to be altered at the national championships at Telford this week. Jeremy Bates, at the age of 32, and Clare Wood, 26, will open the defence of their respective titles as the top seeds.

Bates, five times the former champion, increased his position as the favourite over the weekend when he won the ATP challenger event in Brest. He beat Lionel Barthes in the final, for the loss of a mere four games, to claim his second title of the year.

In April he took the South Korean Open in Seoul to become the first Briton to win an event on the ATP tour for 17 years. The only competitor at Telford to be ranked in the world's top 100, he is to start against Andrew Richardson, of Lincolnshire.

Mark Petchey, the second seed, is capable of upstaging Bates, his doubles partner. He has recorded victories over Michael Stich and Michael Chang this year but his greatest enemy is his own inconsistency. Last year, ignominiously, he did not survive beyond the first round.

He was dismissed by Colin Beecher, who last week pulled out with a strained back and is one of several notable absentees in the men's event. Also missing is Tim Henman, the 20-year-old who has broken into the world's top 200 and extended Bates to a couple of tie-breaks last year.

Bates's cause has been assisted, too, by the withdrawal of Chris Bailey. The runner-up last year, he has suffered from persistent injuries in his left knee and the problems are thought to be so severe that he may today announce that he is to retire prematurely at the age of 26.

In May, Wood climbed to 77th, the highest ranking of her career. Defeat in the first round at Brighton, however, dropped her down to 133rd in the world. Her domestic superiority has been unchallenged for 18 months and her predecessor lies in the same quarter of the draw. Jo Durie, the champion seven times, had been either the nation's No 1 or No 2 for a decade but such has been her decline, exacerbated by injury, that she is not even seeded.

Wood's route to the final on Saturday may be hindered, if not blocked, by Mandy Wainwright, a semi-finalist last year, and by Karen Cross, the runner-up. But her closest rivals, both of whom were eliminated in the second round last year, are in the other half of the draw.

Shirli-Ann Siddall and Julie Pullin, who is 19 during the tournament, are seeded to meet in the last four. They are the most likely to prevent Wood retaining a title she first collected in 1989.



Bates: title favourite

Cardiff's lean spell ended by goal glut

CARDIFF Devils ice hockey team came back to form to secure a place in the semi-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup at the weekend (a Correspondent writes). Following a narrow 4-3 win over Durham Wasps in the North East, Cardiff returned to their home rink to win the second leg 15-2, Doug McEwen and Nicky Chinn both scoring hat-tricks.

"The Devils are awesome in front of their own crowd," the Durham coach, Rocky Saganiuk, said. "No excuses. Once we were four goals adrift our heads went down and that was the end of it."

Since the defection of the Canadian forward, Bobby Berg, Saganiuk has had to return to playing until a work permit comes through for Berg's replacement, another Canadian, Tony Cimellaro.

"It's tough playing and coaching," he said. "You have to split yourself in two and, quite honestly, it's an impossible task."

Nottingham Panthers played themselves into top spot in the premier division with weekend wins over Basingstoke Beavers, by 10-6, and the bottom-placed club Bracknell Bees, 11-3. Bracknell's new signing, Shaun Byram, was dismissed in the second period for spearing.

Sheffield Steelers maintained their unbeaten record, overcoming Bracknell 15-4 in front of a crowd of nearly 8,000 at home before travelling to Scotland to gain a 6-2 victory against Fife.

Results, page 40

Verbal bullies, buffoons and bodyguards

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

When it came to architecture Hitler, according to Jonathan Meades, was seriously into size. "There was no such thing as a Nazi style of building, but there was such a thing as a Nazi size of building and it was vast. XXL and then some." Hitler and Meades then, do have one thing in common.

The Meades style of documentaries, too, are vast. They are extra, extra large and I don't just mean the cut of the double-breasted suit which provided *The Times's* restaurant critic with sartorial sanctuary for **Jerrybuilding** (BBC2), the latest example of his documentary craft.

A major reappraisal of Nazi architecture and its impact on the postwar world in 40 minutes? No problem for Meades, who can flit from Himmler to the Prince of Wales with eloquent ease, leaving the rest of us desperately scrabbling for the dictionary.

But Meades documentaries are also extra, extra loud. Shouting is clearly considered essential to the creative process. And shouting of truly Churchillian proportions went on last night. He shouted on the beach, he shouted on the boating lakes and he shouted down very long corridors, noisily slamming doors for good measure. For a moment I considered surrender.

I would not have been alone, I suspect, for Meades's documentaries are shamelessly extra, extra elitist. Three minutes in and lines like "Prora came out of international modernism and presaged that movement's decline into soulless repetition" were whistling past at head height. Five minutes later he scored a direct hit with "*Volkisch* building is inextricably bound in with Nazism's doctrinaire irrationalism, its contempt for the idea of human progress".

Weakened and dazed, I found myself filled with a sudden, pathetic longing for subtitles.

For a film-maker whose tenet was that Nazism did not die, "it merely buried its uniform and sauntered into the modern world", Meades spent an awful lot of time digging the whole lot up again. The accepted wisdom that Nazism was the greatest modern evil was simply not enough for Meades, for whom no secondary clause was complete without another swipe at tyrants and their tyranny. For those of us for whom it was news that many of those newsreel landmarks were still standing, let alone "posthumous insults", a less emotional treatment might have been more enlightening.

Whether it would have been more entertaining is another matter. Arrogant, erudite and opinionated he may be, but the venerable Meades provides a refreshingly different sort of television. Dim populism he will leave to others.

Talking of which brings us neatly to **The Brittas Empire** which returned to BBC1 as dim, popular and funny as ever. Gordon Brittas, as played by Chris Barrie, is one of the great comic inventions of recent years. As manager of the rebuilt Whitbury New Town Leisure Centre, Brittas is pedantry personified, red tape incarnate.

That he is also a preposterous caricature leaves scriptwriters Richard Fegen and Andrew Norriss with a considerable challenge. But they tread the fine line between realism and ridicule with considerable skill. The unbelievable Brittas they balance with more credible female characters — the sensible Laura, who actually runs the leisure centre, and his long-suffering wife, Helen, who this week swapped her normal diet of anti-depressants for something her son's chemistry teacher sells outside the school gates.

A similar balance is achieved with the story-line, with the slapstick, scatological episode of the escaped emu countered by an all-too-plausible sub-plot to persuade Brittas to apply for the job of European Commissioner for Leisure. "Brussels," salivates a desperate Councillor Druggett, "a pointless bureaucracy spending vast amounts of public money. It's all the things he's good at."

High spot of the first episode was the appearance of Pam Rhodes, here, as in real life the host of *Songs of Praise*, clad in flak jacket, armed with a pump-action shotgun and anxious to dispense instant justice to the miscreant who had just laid out her bishop. In short, the sort of retribution the General Synod must be increasingly tempted to adopt.

For anyone likely to come under attack from the likes of Pam Rhodes, **Bodyguards** (Channel 4) was essential viewing. Some 22 men and women had paid £650 each for a week's intensive instruction on how to become a bodyguard. "We try and make it a good fun course," said the first of the Grant Mitchell lookalikes from Excel Security. "We inject a lot of humour into it." His idea of a good joke, however, was getting the would-be bodyguards up at 4.30 for some vigorous exercise and even more vigorous abuse. I wasn't counting, but I suspect Graham Taylor may have lost his record for the most bleeped out expletives in a *Cutting Edge* documentary.

These, however, were not gratuitous obscenities, but a vital part of the "wearing down" process, we learnt. "Once we have got someone worn down, then we can have a look at their true character."

Despite the presence of a handful of women on the course, bodyguarding is still a man's world, as one glorious moment made clear. "I don't want your Christian name, I'm not sending you a bloody Christmas card," yelled an instructor at a miserable male gasping his way through the early morning physical jerks. "Oh, well done Jill," he said a moment later as a former Bunny girl, who is now a bodyguard to a pop group, trotted by.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (73246)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (98627352)
9.05 Kilroy. Topical discussion programme (s) (2414536)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5755468)
10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Family magazine presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (s) (50787975)
12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7976604)
12.05 Pebble Mill (s)(6526062) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (26832913)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (84791)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (55119352)
1.50 Mary Berry's Ultimate Cakes (s) (98484826)
2.00 Holiday Outings. Jill Dando visits the Turkish resort of Olu Deniz (r) (75420420)
2.05 FILM: Bugles in the Afternoon (1952). American Civil War western starring Ray Milland and Helena Carter. Directed by Roy Rowland (5494159) **Wales:** Harry and the Hendersons 2.30 The Flying Doctors
3.30 The Little Polar Bear (s) (3773888) **3.35 William's Wish Wellingtons** (s) (3772159) **3.40 Fireman Sam** (3786352) **3.50 Chuckievision** (r). (s) (5410833) **4.10 The New Yogi Bear Show** (r) (3216536) **4.20 Spacevets** (s) (3998642) **4.35 Fan TC.** (Ceefax) (s) (5760791)
5.00 Newsround (5692420) **5.10 Byker Grove** (Ceefax) (s) (5894772)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (304130)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) and weather (9)
6.30 Regional news magazines (91)



Jill Dando in sunnier climes (7.00pm)

7.00 NEW **Holiday.** Jill Dando introduces the first programme in a new series from Mauritius, while Maureen Lipman and her mother visit the seaside resort of Southwold in Suffolk (Ceefax) (s) (7739) **Wales:** Six of One
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (75)
8.00 Sportsnight. Desmond Lynam introduces live coverage of the Uefa Cup second round match between Aston Villa and Trabzonspor at Villa Park. With Alan Hansen, Barry Davies and Trevor Brooking (s) (56611884)
NB: The following programmes may run late
9.55 Main News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional News and weather (8062)
10.20 CHOICE **Omnibus: About Face.** (Ceefax) (s) (613710) **Wales:** Week In Week Out 10.50 Omnibus 11.45-1.30am Film: Major League
11.20 FILM: Major League (1989) starring Tom Berenger and Charlie Sheen. A baseball team consisting of bungling amateurs finds itself on a winning streak when the owner dies and his wife takes over. Directed by David S. Ward (576826)
1.00am Weather (9576550)
2.45 BBC Select: Executive Business Channel (19647). Ends at **3.15**

BBC2

7.00am Philbert the Frog (r) (s) (8650517) **7.05 Poddington Peas** (r) (8659888) **7.10 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles** (r). (Ceefax) (5009389) **7.35 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9103449)
8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (6382401)
8.15 Westminster Daily (2111642)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Children's programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (s) (6770401)
2.00 Christopher Crocodile (r) (75428062) **2.05 Spot** (r) (75427333)
2.10 How the West was Lost. Series on the fight by native Americans to protect their territory and preserve their way of life (9106888)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster Live** (7968771) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (3780178)
4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (84)
4.30 Regional Westminster Programmes (r) (88)
5.00 Esther. Esther Rantzen asks if prayer works (s) (5517) **5.30 Catchword** with Paul Coia (8)
6.00 All in the Mind. Quiz show (81)
6.30 Heartbreak High (Ceefax) (s) (944604)
7.15 Diwali Lights: Diwali Memories (583246)
7.25 Animation Now (843130)
7.30 CHOICE **Open Space: Dance of the Pen.** (Ceefax) (17)
8.00 Picture This. Five young boys as they make their way to and from school. (Ceefax) (s) (4401)



Antonio Carluccio's gastronomic tour (8.30pm)

8.30 Food and Drink Special. Food writer and restaurateur Antonio Carluccio drops in on a grape harvest and cooks a barbecue on a southern Italian beach. (Ceefax) (s) (3536)
9.00 Takin' Over the Asylum. The final episode in the drama series. With Ken Stott and Elizabeth Spriggs. (Ceefax) (s) (135081)
9.50 Will's World. Sandi Toksvig discovers Elizabethan theatre. (Ceefax) (s) (807284)
10.00 The Fast Show. Last in the series. (Ceefax) (s)(58739)
10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (210807)
11.15 The Late Show: Tales from Berlin. An insight into how Berlin might have looked had Hitler won the war (s) (735826) **11.55 Weather** (523888)
12.00 FILM: Shadows of the Peacock (1987) starring Wendy Hughes. An Australian woman quits her mundane marriage to an adulterous husband for an exciting affair with a flamboyant Balinese prince in Thailand. Directed by Philip Noyce (519956). Ends at **1.35am 2.00-4.00 Night School:** Search Out Science (92647)

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CHOICE

Network First: Stalker Investigates
ITV, 10.40pm

John Stalker returns to his former role as police detective to reopen the unsolved murder of Hilda Murrell. It is ten years since the body of Murrell, who was 78 and a renowned rose-grower, was found in a field near her home in Shrewsbury. The simple explanation was that she had surprised a burglar who turned nasty. Conspiracy theorists, however, claimed that she had been silenced by agents of the State, either over her opposition to Britain's nuclear programme or the sinking of the General Belgrano during the Falklands War. With another former detective, Rita Wilkinson, Stalker travels to Shropshire and rakes over the evidence. Even on its umpteenth telling, the case still grips. But do not expect sensations.

Without Walls
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The journalist Allison Pearson mounts a ferocious attack on television news as purveyed by the BBC and ITN. She accuses it of turning journalism into entertainment in the obsession with ratings, of equating the trivial with the serious, of having few women newscasters and of covering the Third World only in terms of disasters. Pictures decide stories rather than the other way round and there are mawkish intrusions into private grief. It is a formidable indictment which cries out for an answer. Part two of *Without Walls* would have been an ideal slot. Instead we get a heavy-handed piece in which Shakespeare gives a TV interview while the plot of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is played out off camera.



Cosmetic surgery in self-portraiture (BBC1, 10.20pm)

Omnibus: About Face
BBC1, 10.20pm (Scotland, Thursday, 11.25pm)

Pegged to two exhibitions, and embellished by the art critic, Edward Lucie-Smith, *About Face* is a thoughtful examination of the self-portrait. The film usefully points out that the genre took off during the Renaissance, partly because of the new emphasis on man as an individual, partly because of the wide availability of mirrors. The classic self-portraits of Rembrandt, Stubbs and Reynolds are set against the less orthodox creations of contemporary artists such as Gilbert and George, Marc Quinn and a French woman called Orlan. Her idea of a self-portrait is cosmetic surgery, carried out without anaesthetic so that she can stay in control. But is it art? Lucie-Smith, at least, has his doubts.

Open Space: Dance of the Pen
BBC2, 7.30pm

Blowing his own trumpet, though strictly in the metaphorical sense, Humphrey Lyttelton uses the viewer access slot to put the case for handwriting. He reckons it is a neglected art form and should be cherished, particularly in the age of the word processor. He has nothing against word processors. He uses one all the time and says that any machine which reduces drudgery is fine by him. But it is like making music on a synthesizer. It is not the real thing. Handwriting is human and personal. And he is pleased to report that it is making a comeback, in the National Curriculum and in executive recruitment. Not for nothing is Humph president of the Society for Italic Handwriting.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (3746555)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Shopping quiz hosted by Dale Winton (4865246) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6797178)
10.00 The Time ... the Place with John Stapleton (s) (9339994)
10.35 This Morning (73240807) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7972888)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (9807541)
12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (8257802) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (20661449)
1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz chairs a discussion on a topic of interest to women (s) (52759371)
2.25 A Country Practice. Australian medical drama set in the outback (s) (23666371) **2.50 The Young Doctors.** Hospital drama (7793994)
3.20 ITN News headlines. (Teletext) (6073913) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6072284)
3.30 Gigglish Allsorts (s) (4799197) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (3771420) **3.50 The Raggy Dolls** (s) (4793913) **4.05 Cartoon** (3204791) **4.15 Hurricanes** (s) (7049913) **4.40 Children's Ward** (Teletext) (s) (3149884)
5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (2508178)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (947994) **5.55 Your Shout.** Members of the public air their views (394994)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (97)
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (59)
7.00 Emmerdale. The lives and loves of the farming folk. (Teletext) (2807)
7.30 TJ and Yorkie. A report on homeless drug addicts TJ and Yorkie, who were abused as children. Now both in their early twenties, they are trying to shake off a past which is hampering their chances of finding a permanent home (1)
8.00 The Bill: Cheap at Half the Price. Deakin is asked to kill a man's wife. (Teletext) (1555)
8.30 Strike It Lucky with Michael Barrymore. (Teletext) (s) (6802)
9.00 Soldier, Soldier: Further Education. Now that the battalion is back in Blighty, the lads are looking forward to some royal duties (Teletext) (s) (3523)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (45265) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (799449)



John Stalker tries to solve a murder (10.40pm)

10.40 CHOICE **Network First: Stalker Investigates.** (Teletext) (s) (684333)
11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (826642)
12.40am Street Legal (3915289)
1.40 FILM: Right to Die (1987) starring Raquel Welch and Michael Gross. A woman dying of a progressive and degenerative disease pleads with her family to switch off the respirator and let her die with dignity. Directed by Paul Wendkos (434192)
3.30 Sport AM (10227)
4.30 Beyond Reality. Tales of the paranormal (16531)
5.00 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (11598)
5.30 ITN Morning News (78734). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am King Arthur and the Knights of Justice (r) (4543604)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (39082)
9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (55642)
9.30 Schools: Eureka! (9390062) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (9390062) **10.00** Fourways Farm (5722130) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (7953284) **10.25** How We Used to Live (8618246) **10.48** Mathsbook (1076517) **11.00** Science in Focus (6751807) **11.22** Stage One (9083604) **11.38** Schools at Work (5372739) **11.45** First Edition (s) (3953333)
12.00 House To House. Maya Even presents the political magazine (42178)
12.30pm Sesame Street (15739)
1.30 Trumpton followed by **Little Brrm** (84642)
2.00 FILM: Leave 'Em Laughing (1981) starring Mickey Rooney and Anne Jackson. A made-for-television drama about a circus clown and his wife who have neglected their children. The man's resilience is put to the test when he learns he has a terminal illness. Directed by Jackie Cooper (911178)
3.50 Powers of Ten. Animation (3775246)
4.00 NEW **Crawshaw Paints Acrylics.** An eight-part series in which Alwyn Crawshaw explains the secrets of painting with acrylics. (Teletext) (72)
4.30 Fifteen To One (Teletext) (s) (4)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. A discussion on disciplining children (Teletext) (s) (2637265)
5.50 Terrytoons featuring Deputy Dawg (384517)
6.00 Batman. (Teletext) (49)
6.30 Gamesmaster. Video games magazine (s) (71)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (846623)
7.50 Belfast Lesson (160361)
8.00 Ride On. Muriel Gray and Sean Langan examine road toll systems (Teletext) (9197)
8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (6604)
9.00 CHOICE **Without Walls: J'Accuse – The News** (Teletext) (s) (1772) **9.30 Without Walls: The Night Show – A Midsummer Night's Scream** (Teletext) (72807)



Forest Whitaker and Stephen Rea (10.00pm)

10.00 FILM: The Crying Game (1992) starring Stephen Rea, Miranda Richardson, Forest Whitaker and Jay Davidson. Thriller about an IRA terrorist who decides to look for the lover of one of his victims and finds himself being attracted towards the woman and thought a traitor by his local commander. Directed by Neil Jordan. (Teletext) (s) (67977197)
12.05am South Central. American comedy about a single mother trying to bring up her children in inner-city Los Angeles (1689869)
12.30 Football Italia – Mezzanotte. *Highlights of the Serie A* game between Parma and Roma (46821)
1.30 World Tennis. Action from Sweden (62208)
2.00 FILM: The Mad Genius (1931, b/w) starring John Barrymore. A melodramatic tale of a mesmeric puppeteer who tries to turn the son he rescued from an abusive father into a ballet dancer. Directed by Michael Curtiz (26050). Ends at **3.30**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: **9.55am-10.00** Anglia News (6797178) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (7972888) **1.55** A Country Practice (55114807) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7793994) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (6072284) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2508178) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (837541) **7.30-8.00** Bodyworks (1) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (799449) **12.35am** Film: Right to Die (Raquel Welch, Michael Gross, Bonnie Bartlett) (103444) **2.20** The Little Picture Show (2335173) **3.20** ITV Chart Show (5995314) **4.10** Jobfinder (8952043) **5.00-5.30** About Britain: The Hopeful Traveller (11598)

CENTRAL
As London except: **9.55-10.00** Central News (6797178) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (7972888) **1.55** A Country Practice (55114807) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7793994) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6072284) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2508178) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (837541) **7.30-8.00** Heart of the Country (1) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (799449) **11.40** The Equalizer (826642) **12.40am** The Beat (3915289) **1.40** Film: Right to Die (Raquel Welch, Michael Gross, Bonnie Bartlett) **3.30** Sport AM **4.30** Jobfinder (1081956) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2906173)

GRANADA
As London except: **9.55-10.00** Granada News (6797178) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (7972888) **12.55** Home and Away (8257802) **1.25** Emmerdale (20661449) **1.55** Vanessa (55114807) **2.20** Mum's the Word (23659352) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7793994) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (6072284) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2508178) **6.25** Granada Tonight (837541) **7.00** Emmerdale (2807) **7.30-8.00** Yesterday's Heroes (1) **10.30-10.40** Granada News (799449) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (194555) **12.35am** Right to Die (103444) **2.20** The Little Picture Show (2335173) **3.20** ITV Chart Show (5995314) **4.10** Jobfinder (8952043) **5.00-5.30** About Britain: The Hopeful Traveller (11598)

HTV WEST
As London except: **2.25** Travel Trails (23657625) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (6022710) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2508178) **5.55** Home and Away (333842) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (837541) **7.30-8.00** Fat's Fair (1) **12.35am** Right to Die (103444) **2.20** The Little Picture Show (2335173) **3.20** ITV Chart Show (5995314) **4.10** Jobfinder (8952043) **5.00-5.30** About Britain: The Hopeful Traveller (11598)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: **6.25-7.00** Wales Tonight (837541) **7.30-8.00** Heroes (1) **10.30-10.40** HTV News (799449)

MERIDIAN
As London except: **9.55am-10.00** Meridian News and Weather (6797178) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (7972888) **1.55** A Country Practice (55114807) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7793994) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6072284) **5.10** Home and Away (2508178) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Freescreen (374130) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (97) **6.30-7.00** What's My Line? (59) **7.30-8.00** Serve You Right (1) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (799449) **5.00am-5.30** Freescreen (11598)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: **2.25-3.25** The Young Doctors (23657623) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2508178) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (82420) **7.30-8.00** Ver (1) **12.35am** Right to Die (103444) **2.20** The Little Picture Show (2335173) **3.20** ITV Chart Show (5995314) **4.10** Jobfinder (8952043) **5.00-5.30** About Britain (11598)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: **1.55-3.25** A Country Practice (55114807) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2508178) **5.55** Calendar (936888) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (59) **7.30-8.00** Action Time (1) **11.40** Midnight Crossing (429804) **1.25am** The Little Picture Show (8718666) **2.25** Sport AM (2334444) **3.25** Disaster Chronicles (24761734) **3.50-5.30** Jobfinder (376531)

S4C
Starts: **7.00** The Big Breakfast (39082) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (55642) **9.30** Ysgolion/schools (638307) **12.00pm** House To House (42178) **12.30** Slot Meithrin Ffwrdd B Ni (65371) **1.00** Hullabaloo (77401) **1.30** Hangin'With Mr Cooper Slumber Party (84642) **2.00** The Late Late Show (65178) **3.00** Simply The Best Herbs In East Anglia (8468) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey Show Finding Out What (8939159) **4.20** Deputy Dawg (3223826) **4.30** Happy Days: Breaking Up Is Hard To Do (4) **5.00** 5 Pump - Lined 5 (3913) **5.30** Fifteen To One (36) **6.00** Newyddion 6/News (753623) **6.20** Heno (582474) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (1679) **7.30** Gwyn A'I Fyd (3) **8.00** Penblwydd Hapus Tybed-pwy fydd y cyntaf i gael agor enhegion an (8197) **8.30** Newyddion/news (8604) **9.00** Shakespeare: Y Dramau Wed'u (1772) **9.30** Kids On The Rocks (72807) **10.00** Brookside (43807) **10.30** Dim Tafod (7779) **11.30** The Lovers (810807)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (18406587) **8.40** Cartoons (7101771) **9.30** Card Sharks (9698245) **9.55** Concentration (1058371) **10.30** New Candid Camera (93826) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (31623) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (84178) **12.30pm** E Street (27371) **1.00** Falcon Crest (22826) **2.00** Around the World in 80 Days (16826) **3.00** The Heights (2343505) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (2247604) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (3178) **6.00** Gamesworld (6371) **6.30** Spellbound (7623) **7.00** E Street (4807) **7.30** M*A*S*H (3807) **8.00** Manhunter (50623) **9.00** Due South (47159) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (40246) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (797979) **11.45** Booker (904623) **12.45am** Barney Miller (84111) **1.15-1.45** Night Court (61024)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour. **6.00am** Sunrise (5704197) **9.30** Fashion TV (22517) **10.30** Nightline (91468) **1.30pm** CBS News This Morning (14197) **2.30** Parliament Live (25623) **6.00** Littlejohn (86884) **8.00** World News and Business (24694) **9.30** Target (12449) **11.30** CBS Evening News (36943) **12.30am** ABC News (3392666) **1.10** Littlejohn (7098550) **2.30** Parliament (40918) **4.30** CBS Evening News (78918) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (17647)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (7862197) **10.00 The Women Who Loved Elvis** (1993) (36369) **12.00 Mr Billion** (1977) (80401) **2.00pm The Sinking of the Rainbow Warrior** (1992) (84826) **4.00 Staying Alive** (1983) (56084371) **5.55 The Woman Who Loved Elvis** (1993): As 10am (56066081) **7.30 Close-Up: Indecent Proposal** (8675) **8.00 Malcolm X** (1992) (2551130) **11.20 Poison Ivy** (1992) (454265) **12.55am Halls of Anger** (1970) (383753) **2.30 The Five Heartbeats** (1991) (37444) **4.30-6.00 The Sinking of the Rainbow Warrior** (1992): As 2pm (67173)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Against the Wind (1948) (46468) **8.00 The Fugitive Kind** (1959) (41913) **10.00-12.00 Barbarella** (1967) (60438)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Day of the Outlaw (1959) (60913) **8.00 Spiderman** (1977) (98420) **10.00 Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle-Stop Café** (1992)(51603178) **12.15pm The Beast of Hollow Mountain** (1956) (8053710) **1.35 Killer's Kiss** (1955) (6555062) **2.45 Tarzan and the Huntress** (1947) (4233826) **4.00 Spiderman** (1977): As 8am (88346178) **5.45 Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle-Stop Café** (1992) As 10am (54276517) **8.00 Rich in Love** (1993) (54449) **10.00 The Last Boy Scout** (1991) (518542) **11.45 Knight Moves** (1993) (360710) **1.45am Child of Rage** (1992) (600208) **3.25 Dr Heckyl and Mr Hype** (1980) (71140669)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (8101401) **7.15** WWF Mania (554517) **8.15** Soccer (9978913) **8.30** Fishing the West (73159) **9.00** Beach Volleyball (97739) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (16352) **10.00** US PGA Golf (75846) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (77975) **12.30pm** Football: QPR v Liverpool (20623) **2.30** One to One (2710) **3.00** Fishing the West (4130) **3.30** NBA Basketball Magazine (4555) **4.00** Surfing (51888) **5.00** WWF Superstars (8710) **6.00** Soccer News (459420) **6.15** Sky Sports Classics (454975) **6.30** Grass Roots Rugby (4791) **7.00** Boots 'n' All (85333) **8.00** Ringside Boxing (92587) **10.00** Soccer News (978913) **10.15** The Footballer's Football Show (792975) **11.15** Grass Roots Rugby (958284) **11.45** NBA Basketball (957555) **12.15-2.15am** Ringside Boxing (108802)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (60159) **8.00** Eurogolf (59865) **9.00** Dancing (91178) **10.00** Figure Skating (82371) **11.00** Eurogoals (37062) **12.30pm** Samba Football (15781) **2.30** Motorcycling (83994) **3.30** Speedworld (87555) **4.30** Latin Football (7642) **5.00** Eurogoals (18994) **6.30** Eurosport News (6158) **7.00** Figure Skating (61868) **9.00** Boxing (92523) **10.00** Football: Uefa Cup (59420) **12.00-12.30am** News (64579)

SKY SOAP
8.00am Loving (8674807) **8.30** Peyton Place (8673178) **9.00** As the World Turns (8674913) **10.00** Guiding Light (9098081) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9085517)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Travel Destinations (Caribbean Cruising) (8677994) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (3819130) **1.00** Golf in Paradise (9099333) **1.30** Hawaii Cooks (3818401) **2.00** American Adventurer (2737159) **2.30** Cooking in America (5100555) **3.00** Travel — Adriatic City (2749994) **3.30** Mansions (5172772) **4.00** Golf in Paradise (5191807) **4.30** Kids Down Under (5180791) **5.00** Hawaii Cooks (2751739) **5.30** Cooking in America (5104371) **6.00** Travel — Adriatic Italy (5101284) **6.30** American Adventurer (5192536) **7.00** Travel Destinations (2731975) **7.30** Around the World (5181420) **8.00** Sky Travel (4716361) **9.00** Ticket to Paradise (7699913) **9.30** Cooking in America (3839994) **10.00** Roads to Freedom (8678623) **10.30** Travel Destinations (Kuala Lumper) (8687371) **11.00** Hawaii Cooks (7661130) **11.30-12.00** Mansions (5646791)



Denzel Washington as Malcolm X (Sky Movies, 8.00pm)

TLC
9.00am Craftwise (3885517) **9.30** Cooking with Kurma (6389791) **10.00** Parents Talking (2199710) **10.30** Only Human (3051807) **11.30** Discovering Psychology (6012371) **12.00** Extra Dimensions (4660197) **12.45pm** Draw with Don (86964913) **1.00** Cooking with Kurma (1555401) **1.30** Craftwise (6399176) **2.00** Decisions, Decisions (1257710) **2.30** Are Mothers Really Necessary? (2012642) **3.00** World of Herbs (1253517) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (2091159)

UK GOLD
7.00am The Sullivans (9253772) **7.30** Neighbours (9272807) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (1799979) **8.30** EastEnders (6644820) **9.00** The Bill (2949212) **9.30** The Chinese Detective (9428062) **10.30** Big Deal (48101517) **11.35** The Sullivans (19968807) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (8549456) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7053536) **1.00** EastEnders (9285371) **1.30** The Bill (7052807) **2.00** Potter (8133975) **2.30** Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin (3497410) **3.00** Knots Landing (3140536) **4.00** Dynasty (3152371) **5.00** Every Second Counts (2648197) **5.35** Top of the Pops (3578081) **5.55** Terry and June (2912062) **6.30** EastEnders (8342361) **7.00** Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin (8137791) **7.30** George and Mildred (2942325) **8.00** The River (8153739) **8.30** Potter (8132246) **9.00** The Sweeney (2317197) **10.00** The Bill (7199915) **10.30** Top of the Pops (3968772) **11.20** Naked Video (5529604) **11.50** Dr Who (2400401) **12.15am** Triangle (8905111) **12.45** Campion (50963173) **1.50** Shopping (93618579)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Ratkan III (5464541) **6.15** Bobobobs (507449) **6.45** Casper and Friends (599420) **7.15** Head to Head (1617492) **7.25** Eek the Cat (4808888) **7.55** Saved by the Bell (2264044) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (7232401) **8.40** Tifou (8054371) **8.50** Coccolinei (8050555) **9.00** It's Droibee Time (22062) **10.00** Teddy Trucks (79994) **11.00** Kitty Cats (60456) **11.30** Barney and Friends (10915) **12.00** Ratkan III (11333) **12.30pm** Head to Head in 3D (38260284) **12.40** Eek the Cat (1422449) **1.10** You Can't Do That on Television (70417739) **1.40** Super Mario Brothers (51911536) **1.50** Tifou (51900420) **2.00** Babar (6449) **2.30** Blinky Bill (4710) **3.00** Tic Tac Toons (2830739) **3.15** Bobby's World (110062) **3.45** The Bots Master (119333) **4.15** Head to Head (2481604) **4.30-5.00** Saved by the Bell (1246)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Nickelive! (87826) **7.30** Grimmy (2412807) **7.45** Rugrats (960994) **8.15** Rocko's Modern Life (9976555) **8.30** Slimer and the Real Ghostbusters (2938371) **8.45** Nickelive! (2933626) **9.00** Nick Jr (181369) **12.00** The Muppet Show (75517) **12.30pm** Rugrats (18710) **1.00** Doug (86197) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (17081) **2.00** Denver (8265) **2.30** Smoggies (4492) **3.00** Nick Faves (2772) **3.30** Turtles Gold (2197) **4.00** Grimmy (1604) **4.30** Rugrats (7888) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (4517) **5.30** Doug (1468) **6.00** Guts (1081) **6.30-7.00** Dracula (2333)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm The Global Family (1592864) **4.30** Waterways (6192848) **5.00** A Traveller's Guide to the Orient (8155197) **5.30** The New Explorers (7192028) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (7069197) **7.00** Pacifica (8135333) **7.30** Terra X (4742307) **8.00** Connections 2 (8144081) **8.30** From the Horse's Mouth (8130888) **9.00** Wings of the Red Star (2315739) **10.00** First Tuesday (2318826) **11.00-12.00** The Astronomers (9260062)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: In the Doghouse (1961) Comedy (9405474) **2.00pm** thirtysomething (89503891) **3.00** My Three Sons (8147178) **3.30** The Beverly Hillbillies (6647933) **4.00** FILM: Conduct Unbecoming (1975) Courtroom drama (8141994) **6.00** The Green Hornet (9210387) **6.30** The Time Tunnel (3752913) **7.30** Honey West (1298611) **8.00** thirtysomething (2382401) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (3143623) **9.30** FILM: Private Files of J. Edgar Hoover (1977). Biopic (4805913) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (3100082)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (1522807) **7.00** Living Magazine Highlights (2984212) **8.00** Go For It (3880062) **8.30** The Truth About Women (3869333) **9.00** The Reluctant Cook (1334130) **9.35** Definition (3319913) **10.00** Trivia Trap (2191178) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (3809197) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (1579081) **12.00** Fashion Show (1035826) **12.35pm** Kilroy (1212623) **1.30** Gardenwise (6384246) **2.00** Agony Hour (2192807) **3.00** Living Magazine (3834352) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (24345130) **4.00** Infatuation UK (2098062) **4.30** Definition (49649333) **4.55** Delia Smith (6337130) **5.30** Kate and Allie (2018826) **6.00** Maternal World (2015739) **6.30** Rodeo Drive (2099791) **7.00** Living Magazine (1081536) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (1090284) **9.00** FILM: Coma (64945739) **11.10** Gladrags and Glamour (5951710) **11.30-12.00** The Susan Powter Show (2180062)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Tintin (7771) **5.30** Boogies Diner (5626) **6.00** Black Beauty (2739) **6.30** Through the Keyhole (6791) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (7915) **7.30** The Wonders Years (2975) **8.00** Darling Buds of May (43371) **9.00** Moonlighting (30807) **10.00** Catchphrase (13262) **10.30** GP (21710) **11.00** Lou Grant (70623) **12.00** Rhoda (89173) **12.30am** Big Brother Jake (75111) **1.00** Family Catchphrase (95173) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (39005) **2.00** Moonlighting (26[illegible]) **3.00** Lou Grant (40955) **4.00** Rhoda (54463) **4.30-5.00** The Wonder Years (16656)

MTV
8.30am The Grind (44710) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (57807) **8.00** VJ Ingo (975739) **11.00** Soul (68888) **12.00** Greatest Hits (40333) **1.00pm** Afternoon Mix (746994) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (7748951) **3.45** Cinematic (2798456) **4.00** News (2400739) **4.15** 3 from 1 (2483062) **4.30** MTV (3604) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (67284) **6.30** Sports (5449) **7.00** Greatest Hits (36081) **8.00** Most Wanted (95420) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (41062) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (763710) **10.15** Cinematic (764265) **10.30** News (508159) **10.45** 3 from 1 (529642) **11.00** The End? (64791) **1.00am** Soul (22376) **2.00** The Grind (72869) **2.30** Videos (173269)

VH-1
7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9088604) **9.00** Café (1824739) **12.00** The Bridge (6586555) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (3199536) **2.30** Heart and Soul (8997975) **3.30** Into the Music (8323807) **6.00** Prime Cuts (3836807) **7.00** For You (8211771) **8.00** Rock (8411979) **9.00** Ten of the Best (8516523) **10.00** The Bridge (9854159) **11.30** Today's Top Five (5655449) **12.00** The Nightfly (2945192) **2.00am** Prime Cuts (4139294) **3.00** Rock (9749460) **4.00** Ten of the Best (1059260) **5.00** Dawn Patrol

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (11468) **7.00** Asian Morning (40623) **8.30** Bunyaad (37371) **9.00** Tamil Movie (600913) **12.00** Serial: Nagar Pane Roop Nagar (15159) **12.30pm** Serial: Hanstey Bastey (56994) **1.00** Hindi FILM: Bedardi (599333) **4.00** Kiddie Time (8888) **4.30** TVA and You (69352) **5.30-6.00** Serial — Bunyaad (2352) **7.00** New Serial: Doop Chaon (7081) **7.30** India Show (8517) **8.00** News Bulletin (34011) **8.30** Des Pardes with Asif Gazhali (2536) **9.00** Bollywood Plus (71642) **9.30** Pakistani Movie (536284) **12.00** Asian Morning (837463) **1.35am** Sight and Sound (81630314)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films.
Theme Music Scr
7.00pm The Merry Widow (1952) (59713807) **8.55 Royal Wedding** (1951) (96685197) **10.35 Everybody Sing** (1937) (30359913) **12.20am Affairs of Dobie Gillis** (1953) (74227551) **1.40 My Dream Is Yours** (1949) (62347542) **3.30-5.00 I Live For Love** (1935) (32789462)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

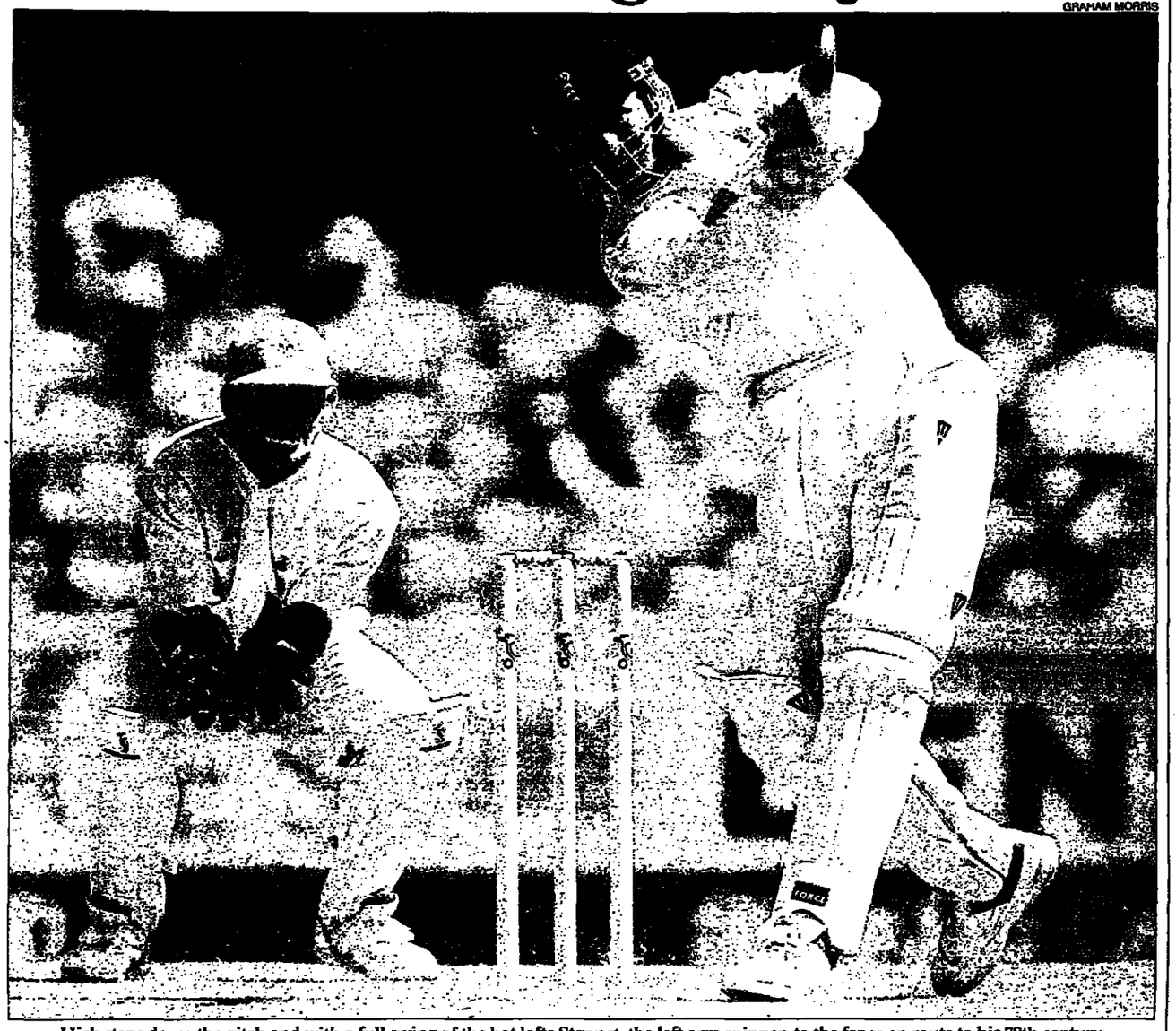
CNN/CMT/QVC
CNN provides 24-hour news, CMT has country music from midnight to 4pm and QVC is the home shopping channel

England prosper despite further failure by Gatting

State bowlers savaged by Hick

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN PERTH

GRAHAM MORRIS



Hick steps down the pitch and with a full swing of the bat lofts Stewart, the left-arm spinner, to the fence en route to his 78th century

GRAEME Hick batted yesterday as we all do in our dreams. Unfortunately for him and England, he usually wakes up when a Test match begins. If he should carry this form into the Ashes series that begins later this month, he can sleep soundly, for it was formidable stuff.

Hick permitted himself to smile after his innings of 172, made in a shade under five hours from 243 balls. He is not the most confessional man, treating inquiries with the same uncertainty as a short-pitched ball but here, talking about his new-found contentment, he sounded for all the world like a younger, more decorous Senator Edward Kennedy.

He would not issue any proclamation and nor should *anyone else — yet.* A record of two hundreds from 50 Test innings suggests the case for is still unproven. But that sense of enjoyment, so difficult to define in the past two years, was evident in his strokeplay.

Atherton outspoken Page 41
Test drawn ..... Page 41
Waugh wounded .... Page 41

Hick is not the only man to feel happy. Michael Atherton has backed him to emerge from his chrysalis as a beautiful butterfly. He knows that Hick must take flight this winter and provide the kind of scores that David Boon gives Australia.

Boon also endured an awkward introduction to Test cricket but has now made 19 Test hundreds and is averaging 48, which gives Hick something to aim at.

This must be the tour when he repays the trust and time people have invested in him, and this innings was a clear, early sign of his intentions.

The batting of John Crawley, who added 151 runs with Hick for the fifth wicket, was also encouraging. Assuming that England declare first thing today, leaving Western Australia a day to make 401, Crawley will have made 107 runs in the match without being dismissed.

Set against that is the double failure of Graham Thorpe and Mike Gatting. Thorpe got away with a top-edged pull that fell short of fine leg but immediately spooned an easy catch to cover. In neither innings did he show much discrimination about which balls to attack, although it is far too early for panic stations.

Gatting is a different case. Because of his age, and his moderate record over his past 20 Tests, he must feel that he has to make runs, and soon.

By bounding down the pitch to drive Stewart, the left-arm spinner, through extra cover, he appeared to have slipped his moorings. What a deception. Shaping to cut the very next ball, he offered an easy slip catch and returned to the pavilion, no doubt a deeply troubled man.

Hick's efforts to master Stewart were more productive. He laboured in the early part of his innings, getting off the mark with an uppish drive, and spent 26 overs over 19. Then, abracadabra, he decided to be bold.

He attacked Stewart and drove him over the top not once, but four times, before Martyn dispatched a man to long-off for the bowler's protection. Hick was away and, after the departures of Thorpe and Gatting, he found in Crawley a man whose solidity enabled him to maintain a brisk tempo.

At tea Hick was 91. After completing the 78th century of his career, from 189 balls, with 17 fours, he began a giddy dance that waltzed him to 150 from another 25, 40 runs coming in boundaries. Five of them, from successive balls, reminded Cary, whose first senior game this is, what a harsh mistress is cricket.

Crawley who essayed some fine pulls of his own and one stupendous on drive, was an ideal partner. Hick was now inspired and to show how subtle his touch was, he used the pace of the ball to collect boundaries off Cary and Reid with the delicate stroke behind point that Geoffrey Boycott calls the "back cut".

It wasn't hard to feel for Reid. He beat all the England batsmen he bowled to and at the end of a draining day, all passion spent, he had gone wicket-less for 82 runs. What nonsense those figures are.

England will not want to see him again in a hurry and if Australia do not select him, they must have some good alternatives.

It fell to Cary to end Hick's innings when he was six runs short of equalling the 178 he made against India in Bombay 18 months ago. Crawley saw the day out with 67 unbeaten runs, playing straight and with a broad bat. If England strike early today, they will expect to win the match.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND XI: First Innings 245 (M A Atherton 68; B A Reid 4 for 71)

Second Innings

G A Gooch c Gilchrist b Stewart	68
*M A Atherton c Lavender b Moody	35
G A Hick c Gilchrist b Cary	172
G P Thorpe c sub b Cary	14
M W Gatting c Moody b Stewart	6
J P Crawley not out	67
†S J Rhodes c Martyn b Cary	16
P A J DeFreitas not out	4
Extras (lb 2, w 1, nb 8)	11
Total (6 wkts)	393

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-80, 2-129, 3-174, 4-203, 5-354, 6-388

BOWLING: Reid 29-8-82-0; Coulson 18-4-83-0; Moody 17-6-23-1, Cary 22-3-114-3, Stewart 22-4-89-2

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: First Innings 238 (M W Goodwin 91, M R J Veletta 67; D E Malcolm 6 for 70).

Wilkinson left to reshuffle pack as injury bars Dorigo

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

HOWARD Wilkinson, the Leeds United manager, will be forced to change his team for the first time in five matches when it meets Ipswich Town at Portman Road in the FA Carling Premiership tonight. Tony Dorigo, an England left back, damaged a hamstring near the end of Leeds's 3-1 win at Southampton on Saturday and misses the game.

Dorigo, who was substituted at The Dell, is having treatment and may be available to face Wimbledon at Elland Road on Saturday. Nigel Worthington is expected to move from midfield to left back, with the winger, David White, standing by for a possible recall after recovering from a hairline fracture of a heel.

John Wark, the veteran Ipswich defender, is hopeful that his back injury will have recovered sufficiently for him to return to a team that has suffered six consecutive defeats.

Before Adrian Paz, the Uruguayan striker, registered his first goal for the club against Liverpool on Saturday, Wark had been the only Ipswich goalscorer in four games. The 3-1 defeat left only Everton below Ipswich in the table.

Wark, 37, remained in good heart, however. "We've still got quite a few players to come back into the side and we are far from despondent at this stage," he said. "Obviously, we are losing matches but it is too early to talk about a crisis with 30-odd games to go."

Ian Marshall, the former Oldham Athletic striker who was the leading scorer for Ipswich last season, is doubtful for the game after being out for nearly a month with a hip injury.

Wark said: "Paz was very good against Liverpool and well deserved his goal. What he needs is somebody like Marshall to finish off his crosses."

Tony Cottee, the West Ham United striker, will return to his former club, Everton, bearing no grudges despite being squeezed out of Goodison Park after finishing as the club's leading scorer in four of his six seasons there. Cottee, whose main regret is not living up to expectations after his £2.2 million transfer to Everton in 1988, said: "That transfer was the perfect platform for me but I did not go on to become the great player I could have been."

Everton's draw with Arsenal on Saturday means they have won only five matches out of 32 under Mike Walker, their manager. They are still awaiting their first victory of the season, but Walker insisted: "We will turn it around given time."

David Unsworth, the first player to score for Everton in more than 360 minutes of Premiership football, looks likely to miss the match with West Ham. The young defender is struggling with a thigh injury and the club captain, Dave Watson, is poised to replace him after three matches on the sidelines with a back injury.

Vinny Samways is expected to return to midfield, where Ian Durrant will play his last game before returning to Rangers after a month's loan spell.

Rangers, 3-1 winners of the Glasgow derby against Celtic at Hampden Park on Sunday, received an unusual reward from the Ibrox manager, Walter Smith, in the form of a trip to the Scottish outpost of Huntly.

Had the Scottish champions overcome AEK Athens in their European Cup preliminary-round tie in August, Rangers would have been bound for Champions' League action in Milan tomorrow.

Instead, Smith's players will play a friendly match to mark the installation of new floodlights at the Highland League club. Ally McCoist, the Rangers striker, who made a brief appearance as a substitute against Celtic, will play from the start as he makes his latest return from injury.

Craig Levein and Graeme Hogg, of Heart of Midlothian, were yesterday banned from Scottish domestic football until January 7. The players, who were involved in a punch-up in a pre-season match, had appeals against ten-match suspensions dismissed by the Scottish Football Association.

RFU backs down over 'club versus country' dispute

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

AFTER a day when the telephone lines between the Midlands and London were humming like bees in a hive, the decision by the Rugby Football Union (RFU) to instruct England players to rest from their club labours this weekend has been reversed.

Jack Rowell, the national team manager, has agreed that players such as Tim Rodber and Martin Bayfield *can turn out for relegation-*threatened Northampton despite an agreement — made by the England players among themselves in September — that they would rest on the Saturdays before internationals, in this case the game against Romania at Twickenham on November 12.

The scheduled squad weekend has been pushed back 24 hours so that it now begins after the league matches on Saturday have taken place. England originally planned to meet on Friday and train at Twickenham on Saturday morning.

"I have not received any appeals from players but it seemed clear that a few were going to be reluctant to *desert their clubs, even in England's* cause," Rowell said. "I want a squad that are happy in their rugby at all levels. However, the ban will apply for the league weekends preceding five nations' championship matches."

That affects two of the four weekends, though not the England-France match of February 4 since, anomalously, players are permitted to play in fifth-round cup matches the preceding week.

The decision taken in September, to which not all squad members are said to have been party, should never have been forced on England players. If the Welsh Rugby Union could *have had the foresight to suspend* first and second-division league fixtures so as to rest international players, there seems no reason why the RFU should have been pushed into an ad hoc arrangement that effectively passed the buck to its players.

Matters were brought to a head by the match this Saturday between Northampton and West Hartlepool, bottom and second-bottom of the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship. Rodber, the captain, and Bayfield are the core of a Northampton pack in a side that has won only once in the league."

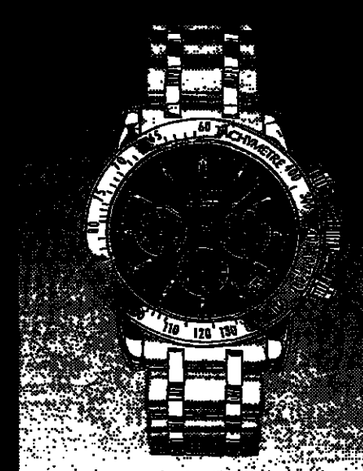
Nor can Harlequins, the club of *Brian Moore, Jason Leonard and* Will Carling and now third from the bottom, afford to be without them against Gloucester. But the crux of the matter is the division of loyalty between club and country which the RFU, in a season leading up to the World Cup, has scarcely acknowledged.

Ian McGeechan, the Northampton director of rugby, was already without three internationals — Ian Hunter, Peter Walton and Neil Edwards — through injury or unavailability. He welcomed the clarification from Rowell of what Bayfield, the England lock, had described as a "ludicrous" situation. "Players still have the option of not playing," McGeechan said, "and if Tim or Martin chose not to, I would respect that decision."

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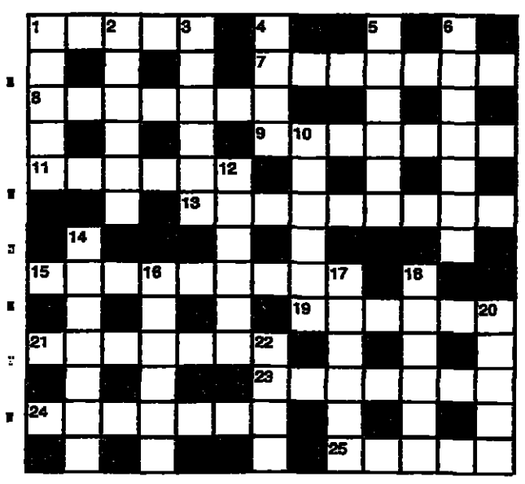


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TIME DREAMS AND TECHNOLOGY

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 307



ACROSS
1 Award for bravery, distinction (5)
7 Statement of moneys owed (7)
8 Rational (7)
9 Section of serial (7)
11 German/English oratorio composer (6)
13 The art of stuffing (9)
15 Unconsidered competitor (4,5)
19 Gutter; depression; feed holder (6)
21 Stone- or brick-work (7)
23 Pantomime character, served by genie (7)
24 Severe reprimand; why? (4,3)
25 Curt (5)

DOWN
1 Soil-enrichment material (5)
2 Tropical mammal, the sea cow (6)
3 Little picture-case on chain (6)
4 Irritable humour (4)
5 Creamy dessert; hair preparation (6)
6 Training, study institution (7)
10 Minister of religion (6)
12 Hard work (6)
14 Swagger (7)
16 Very intricate (problem) (6)
17 Wandering (knight) (6)
18 Break apart (6)
20 Moveable joint, mechanism (5)
22 Story; strand (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 306
ACROSS: 1 Ring true 5 Skip 9 Debouch 10 Worst 11 Mead 12 Let down 14 Mutter 16 Accede 19 Horatio 21 Mown 24 Spoil 25 Sponsor 26 Sole 27 Perforce
DOWN: 1 Rude 2 Noble 3 Trundle 4 Uphold 6 Karaoke 7 Patented 8 Swot 13 Emphasis 15 Turmoil 17 Come off 18 Tousle 20 Tall 22 Wiser 23 Free

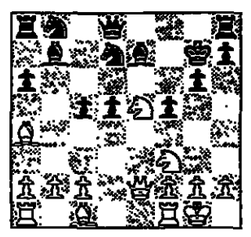
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WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Hracek - Hertneck, Germany 1994.

The black position is full of *holes, a fact which White* exploited with a clever tactical coup. How did he continue?



Solution, page 40
Raymond Keene, page 6

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PIPKRAKE
a. A meadow bird
b. An ice needle
c. A sweet dumpling

REQUETE
a. A bunker at real tennis
b. A Spanish Nationalist
c. A type of tree rose

SALAK
a. A thorny palm
b. Arabian backgammon
c. A curved knife

PALIOTTO
a. A Sienese horse-race
b. Double eight-time at dancing
c. Full frontal altar-piece

Answers on page 40